



NORTH COUNTRY SPCA

FRANCES MILLER ADOPTION CENTER

P.O. Box 55 7700 Route 9N Elizabethtown, NY 12932

May 2021

Dear Friends,

Here is a story to welcome Spring!

SAM & TONI: THE CIRCLE OF LOVE & LOSS

by Bill Colquhoun

This is the story of two dogs I adopted from the NCSPCA. The first was Sam. He came into my life as a puppy and for the next 14 years Sam was my best friend. He grew up into a handsome, strong fellow who especially loved swimming and retrieving balls and sticks. Once he was tired we'd break out apples and eat a couple together. When he died in June of last year, I missed him terribly. So much of my life had revolved around Sam. The house was too quiet. Honestly, everything felt empty. I was lonely. I knew I needed a dog in my life again.



Sam, adopted in 2006

On the shelter website I saw a photo of a five-year-old dog named Tony Danza who reminded me of Sam. I was disappointed when I first met Tony because he didn't warm to me right away. But there was something about Tony that brought me back to see him again and again. Five times to be exact. As I got to know him and as I learned about his past, I knew that Tony was a survivor. He'd had a tough life. Someone abandoned him in Keene, NY. People in the area tried for weeks to tempt him with treats. Finally, he was caught in a Have-a-Heart trap and brought to the shelter.

Tony Danza had been at the shelter for over a year because it wasn't easy to make friends with him. When I adopted Sam, he was an I-love-everybody puppy. Tony, on the other hand, was an adult dog who would require patience and time to earn his trust.



Toni, adopted in November 2020

When I took Tony home 6 months ago, I renamed him Toni to start anew. I had very few expectations. Considering his past, I thought it would be enough to give him a good home and enjoy what I could. But life with Toni has turned out to be so



Toni is an amazingly smart and fun dog. He learns commands quickly and he's also become very affectionate. When I'm sitting on the couch, he'll come up to me and kiss, kiss, kiss me on the face. He's telling me he cares.

Each morning I wake up and there's Toni, eagerly waiting for our day to begin, to go to the beach and swim and catch balls!

While originally I'd hoped to find another Sam, it's better that Toni is different. Toni's allowed me to remember the good times I had with Sam without the sadness. I think I've been good for Toni and I know he's been good for me. I consider myself lucky that we found each other. We will have a good life together. I'm sure of it.

Gratefully,



Your friends at the North Country SPCA



Remember, the North Country SPCA
is a no-kill shelter that receives NO support
from the national ASPCA.

More than 85% of our income
comes from from generous people like you
who share our commitment to helping animals
in need. Please give online at

www.ncspca.org



Please donate to the North Country SPCA to
help us find homes for all the cats and dogs, like
Sam and Toni, who find refuge at the shelter.
They need your support to begin a new life in a
new home.

Thank you!

