

Gabe becomes an Angel Dog

This is the story of hound mix, named Gabe and how he used his inner charm and charisma to change the perception of a hound in the minds of all who met him.

Gabe was adopted from a local animal control facility when he was about 2 years old. He had a broken tail, lacerations all over his severely underweight body. He was heart worm positive and had a crushed vertebra. He was extremely frightened of everything. Gabe needed a “savior” who would believe in him and a “savior” is what he got! She saw a gem under all of these medical problems and she went to work to save him, all while he worked his charms on her!

Gabe’s human spent her days, first to get him healthy, then she began working on his self-confidence and fear level. They were inseparable and became best friends. Gabe learned to love his human as much as his human loved him.

About a year after he was adopted, Gabe became the 1st Canine Ambassador for Paws-Ability. He was fitted with a black tuxedo, handmade for him that he wore with great pride. When Gabe donned his tuxedo, it was as if he knew he was on duty as a “Canine Ambassador” and he put his best foot forward! His head was held high and his chest out. He knew what it felt like to be special.

His pride was obvious to all who had the privilege of meeting Gabe as he worked tirelessly to raise funds for animals in need. He was in charge of the Belk’s Charity Days campaign that raised thousands of dollars for Paws-Ability. He was a greeter at the annual Classic Car Museum Show and the Great Clips campaign. He worked the Chamber of Commerce Expos, actually dressing his human as a leprechaun to assist him. He worked Photos with Santa in the town park and of course, he attended most Paws-Ability monthly meetings. Whatever the need of the “canine Ambassador”, Gabe was ready for the task at hand. The bigger the crowds, the happier Gabe was. He loved to show off with grace and manners and he was so proud.

Gabe was such a great example of what a throw away hound mix could become when he was loved and cared for. His demeanor made many people think about these dogs differently.

Gabe lost his battle this year but the love between Gabe and his mother will live on. Hounds are abundant in southern shelters. They are smart, beautiful, loving and make great pets, if only given a chance to shine. Gabe had his chance to shine and shine he did. Gabe made a difference while he was with us and Gabe continues to make a difference each time we see a hound abandoned in a shelter. M Gabe leaves us with these words: “Give a hound a chance and he will not disappoint you.”

When Gabe crossed the rainbow bridge, his mother told him to send her another dog in need. That is just what Gabe did. Stay tuned for the story of the dog Gabe sent to heal the heart of his grieving mother!