

## Paws of Honor Serves Our Hero Dogs This Fourth of July with the Help of Generous Friends Like You

The Fourth of July is a wonderful time to remember America's heroes -- military service members, great leaders, and others who have dedicated themselves to the service of our country.

Which is why in this month's *K9 Corner* newsletter, **Paws of Honor is recognizing the service of America's four-legged heroes** ... the brave K9s who have supported our nation through everything from sniffing out improvised explosive devices (IEDs) in war zones to protecting our presidents in Washington, D.C., and around the world.

The military working dogs and other patriotic pups Paws of Honor supports are truly unsung heroes -- faithful companions whose loyalty and unique talents are put to work at home and abroad. But the cost for their care can be very high, especially due to the physically grueling nature of their jobs.

So thankfully, the service of these four-legged heroes is remembered and appreciated by Paws of Honor's generous donors -- patriotic Americans like you who value the hard work and dedication of America's K9 heroes.

Paws of Honor's faithful supporters are helping hero pups like **K9 Christy**, who served for five years with the Federal Government. Christy's primary job was vehicle and package searches and protective sweeps in support of Force Protection at a secure



*K9 Oakley was in the first class of Vapor Wake K-9s to serve the U.S. Capitol and excelled at explosives ordnance detection work. Oakley is now retired and is living out the remainder of his days with his former handler and family. Because of generous supporters like you, Paws of Honor is able to provide the necessary veterinary care Oakley needs.*

Department of Defense facility in Virginia. She also assisted with other missions such as many Marine Corps Marathons!

After Christy underwent emergency surgery at no cost to her handler, her handler told Paws of Honor: **"At a time when you're worried whether or not your partner is going to be OK, Paws of Honor is there to take the financial burden off of your shoulders through their amazing support."** Thanks to them and everyone who helps support them! They are truly a blessing!"

And when it comes to K9 Christy's sunset years, her mom has a simple goal. She told Paws

of Honor, "My wish is that I give her the happiest and most fulfilled retirement that I can **to honor all of her hard work and dedication in helping to protect this great nation.**"

And that's exactly what the generosity of Paws of Honor's supporters is doing for hundreds of K9 heroes, including K9 Christy: honoring their hard work and giving them a happy retirement. It's an important and meaningful way Paws of Honor's donors show their patriotism and their appreciation for America's deserving retired working dogs in their golden years!

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# Meet These K9 Heroes NEW to Paws of Honor!



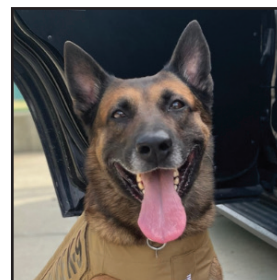
## Explosive Detection K9 Roxie

**K9 Roxie** dedicated over six years to the **U.S. Capitol Police** as an Explosive Detection dog. She has protected many important people on Capitol Hill and traveled to numerous events in the DC, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania areas. Roxie is enjoying retirement at home, relaxing on the couch, and she loves to go for car rides and walks.



**K9 Tygo** worked for the **Branson Police Department** in Missouri for almost six years. Tygo detained multiple wanted suspects, helped with seizing over \$40,000 in illegal drug money, and detected 11,000+ grams of illegal narcotics. On January 5, 2022, Tygo was diagnosed with congestive heart failure, leading to his final call and retirement. If it wasn't for his diagnosis, he would happily be patrolling the streets of Branson, making so many new friends!

## K9 Tygo

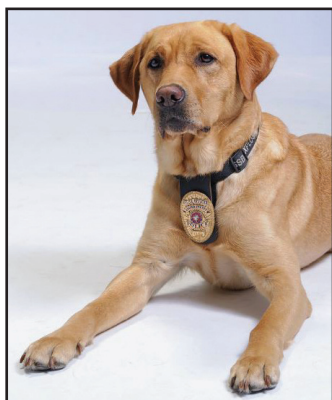


## K9 Kizmet

**K9 Kizmet** worked for the **Broward Sheriff's Office** in Florida for ten years. During her decade of service, Kizmet aided her handler with getting 3,600 kilograms (that's almost 8,000 POUNDS) of dangerous drugs off the streets and seizing over \$10 million! This super sniffer also found \$1.9 million hidden in a car carrier. After working long, and hard, Kizmet retired and now spends her days sleeping, wrestling with her K9 replacement, and tormenting the family chickens.

## Dual-Purpose Patrol & Explosive Detection K9 Vvipper

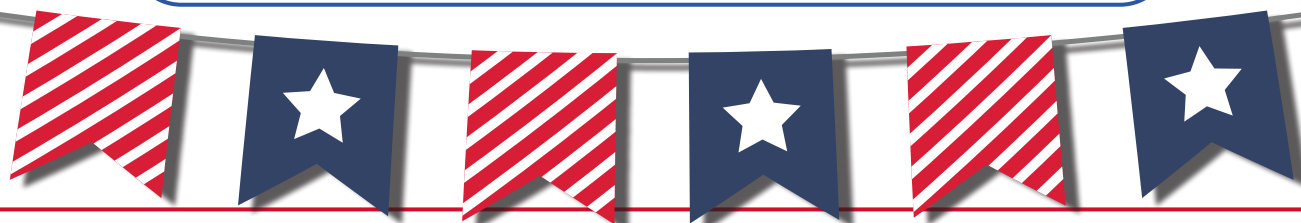
**K9 Vvipper** is a 13-year-old Belgian Malinois who worked for the **United States Air Force** from December 2009 to November 2018 as a Dual-Purpose Patrol and Explosive Detection dog. Vvipper excelled at his job and deployed to Iraq, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, and Guatemala, just to name a few. After retirement, Vvipper was adopted by his handler and lived with him until his handler was stationed overseas and couldn't take him. Vvipper then moved in with his grandparents, who spoil him rotten! His favorite thing to do is lay on the couch and watch TV.



## Explosive Detection K9 Thor

**K9 Thor** is a retired Explosive Detection dog who worked for the **United States Federal Government** for almost six years. Thor spent a lot of time in Afghanistan and Iraq, and even did a short trip to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA). While there, he got to sit next to a camel! K9 Thor placed first in the 2019 United States Police Canine Association (USPCA) Region 3 Competition and was invited to the National United States Police Canine Association, Inc. Competition in New York. Since retirement, Thor has become a mama's boy and follows her everywhere! He also enjoys playing with his three human sisters and cleaning up their crumbs, especially goldfish crackers and bananas.

# Paws of Honor Fourth of July Word Search



J H O P G Y L I M A F B A C V B R G B B F H P  
 B B N J F D P F O I E J J R F X G U R X I E A  
 I A A P R E D O V N D N D E H K Y B A O R M E  
 S K R F V E U L Z D M S U C T E X H V N E G L  
 V N E B L O J O Z E W J O I E V L J E O W R B  
 Q O T C E A P Y I P W B R F I L E P T I O A A  
 W A E A G Q G A N E H L P F N E E L K T R T R  
 C Q V F P S U L Y N R Y D O H V B B Z A K E O  
 I D D R W U Q E T D W N Q E Q Z I M R R S F N  
 T E L E B M O A R E H F R E E D O M N A E U O  
 O H N S L M V W E N I I K D T X V S K L T L H  
 I G B C U E J G B C T H E R O Q N O X C V E U  
 R Z L U E R W W I E E G O W Y Y O U J E M U A  
 T A M E R I C A L T G D E T I N U U C D Z N F  
 A D K R E L D N A H W R E T R O P P U S X T Q  
 P O Z O C R Y D E F E N D N P R O T E C T P Q

Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden ↑ ↓ → ← and ↘



**PAWS OF  
HONOR**  
TWO HEROES, ONE LEASH



AMERICA  
 BARBEQUE  
 BLUE  
 BRAVE  
 CELEBRATE  
 DECLARATION  
 DEFEND  
 FAMILY  
 FIREWORKS  
 FLAG

FREEDOM  
 GRATEFUL  
 HANDLER  
 HELP  
 HERO  
 HONORABLE  
 INDEPENDENCE  
 LIBERTY  
 LOYAL  
 OFFICER

PATRIOTIC  
 PROTECT  
 PROUD  
 RED  
 RESCUE  
 SUMMER  
 SUPPORTER  
 UNITED  
 VETERAN  
 WHITE





## Pet Tips: A Safe & Happy Summer with Your Dog

Summer is a wonderful time for canine companions and pet lovers alike, with plenty of long lazy days and time spent outdoors. Here are a few tips for a safe and happy summer with *your* best friend or maybe some you find worth sharing with others!

- Be vigilant about vehicle safety. Always remember that pets are affected by heat much more quickly than humans are, and that cars heat up quickly in warmer weather, even with the windows cracked. Leaving a pet in a car for “just a minute” can have a deadly outcome.
- Be mindful of the temperature of asphalt or sand; prolonged exposure can burn dogs’ sensitive paws.
- Know the signs of heat stroke, which can be deadly and requires immediate veterinary attention! Signs of heat stroke include excessive panting, drooling, dark or bright red tongue and gums, stumbling, lethargy, seizures, bloody diarrhea or vomiting, and coma. If you suspect heat stroke, seek veterinary treatment as soon as possible. You can provide some immediate treatment using cool (but not icy) water to lower your pet’s temperature. If your pet showed signs of heat stroke but has been cooled and now appears fine, do not assume everything is now okay, as internal organs can be affected by extreme body temperature elevation. It is best to have a veterinarian examine your pet to check for potential health complications.
- Many foods and drinks often found at barbecues can be poisonous to dogs. Keep them away from raisins, grapes, onions, chocolate, and products with the sweetener xylitol, as well as alcoholic beverages which can cause intoxication, depression, and comas.
- Protect your dog from sunburn -- especially if he is short-haired or has pink skin and white hair -- by limiting his exposure when the sun is unusually strong. Apply sunblock to his ears and nose 30 minutes before going outside.
- If you take your pup to the beach, don’t let him drink much seawater, as the salt can make him sick. Don’t encourage out-of-shape dogs to run in the sand, which is difficult and can result in a pulled ligament or tendon. Be vigilant for jellyfish and sea lice. And rinse him with fresh water when you leave, as salt and other ocean minerals can damage his coat.
- Most lawn and garden insecticides and pesticides can be dangerous if ingested. And keep citronella candles, tiki torch products, and insect coils out of pets’ reach as well. Call your veterinarian or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center at (888) 426-4435 if you suspect your dog has ingested a poisonous substance.

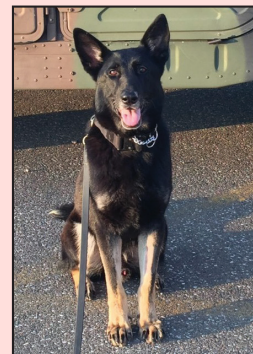


*K9 Olga enjoys the sunshine.*



### Explosive Detection K9 Cesar -- U.S. Secret Service

K9 Cesar turned 11 in December. He proudly served as an explosive detection dog for the Secret Service from July 2012 until May of 2020. During his tenure Cesar traveled all over the world and worked in just about every state. His owner says his favorite treat is ice cream -- or anything that isn’t dog food!



### Dual Purpose Patrol & Explosives Detection K9 Duke -- U.S. Air Force

K9 Duke served as a military working dog in the U.S. Air Force for nearly eight years. Duke served in hostile war zones and dangerous combat situations on two deployments and dozens of missions, during which Duke was instrumental in saving the lives of his fellow soldiers. Now Duke is living the good life with his former

handler who permanently adopted him following his retirement.



### Dual Purpose Explosive Detection & Patrol Military Working Dog Uu2 -- U.S. Navy

K9 Uu2 served as a dual purpose explosive detection and patrol military working dog for the United States Navy from June 2010 through October 2019. Uu2’s overseas deployments included Honduras and the Horn of Africa. While deployed to Honduras, she participated in anti-drug trafficking

missions, preceding American and Honduran security forces to detect improvised explosive devices (IEDs) planted by the cartel. While deployed to the Horn of Africa, she performed explosives detection and physical security missions in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. K9 Uu2 also performed numerous stateside missions throughout her career, providing explosives detection, physical security, and visual deterrence for two U.S. Presidents, Secretary of Defense, Secretary of State, Diplomats, Heads of State, and Military Officials. K9 Uu2 was highly driven, eager to learn new skills, and excelled at her job. After retiring in 2019 she was adopted by her U.S. Navy handler.

## Happy Fourth of July to These Patriotic Pups!



### Explosive Detection K9 Harriet -- U.S. Government

Harriet is a yellow Labrador Retriever who protected our country both domestically and on foreign soil. She served eight years as a federal government police K9, performing explosive detection here in the United States as well as in Afghanistan and Iraq! Today Harriet is enjoying her

retirement with her family and other police dogs. She enjoys playing ball, having books read to her and playing with her new K9 buddy Beethoven.



### Explosive Detection K9 Bubba -- U.S. Navy

K9 Bubba is a retired military working dog who served nine years with the U.S. Navy, stationed in Bahrain where she earned the unofficial yet honorable title of “Desert Dog.” She had many handlers over her career and she was able to retire with her last handler. Over the years, Bubba has developed hip dysplasia, spondylosis, and arthritis. Although she refuses to believe that these conditions limit her in any way,

the cost of her care is substantial! Her handler says that without the help of Paws of Honor and friends like you, their family would not be able to cover many of the expenses associated with her well-being.

Happy Fourth of July  
and Thank You for  
supporting retired  
law enforcement and  
veteran K9s like me!





# Join The “K9 Companion Club” Monthly Giving Family and Make Your Gift Do MORE in 2022

The **K9 Companion Club** is a simple and secure way you can make an even bigger difference for America’s K9 heroes after they retire from service. So join the **K9 Companion Club**, Paws of Honor’s monthly giving program -- and enjoy the great benefits that make it as easy as possible to continue your faithful patriotic support for America’s four-legged heroes.

As a generous supporter, you already know that once retired these dogs are considered “surplus equipment” by the government, despite their years of faithful service. And they receive no veterinary or medical care from the government, even though their physically challenging service often leaves them with even greater needs than other older dogs. Now we’ve created a new way for you to help our four-legged heroes while reducing the amount of mail you receive at the same time! By enrolling in the **K9 Companion Club**.

- ★ We’ll know your monthly gift is coming, so we can send you less mail, and the money saved on postage, printing, and other costs makes your gift go farther. (You’ll still receive your **K9 Corner** newsletter and other important mailings.)
- ★ Your monthly donation will be conveniently and securely debited from your checking account or charged to your credit card each month so you don’t have to spend time writing checks or searching for stamps.
- ★ You can cancel at any time!

Your monthly gift can be life-changing -- especially today, when so many K9 heroes and their handlers need our help because of the coronavirus pandemic and economic challenges. They dedicated their lives to serving our country ... so now it’s our turn to care for them in their sunset years!

So I hope you’ll join the **K9 Companion Club** today -- to help ensure we have the funds we need to support our K9 heroes in desperate need of urgent medical care and ongoing treatment to improve their quality of life. To enroll, please see your enclosed reply form.



*Your monthly gift supports K9 heroes like K9 Bob who worked over six years as an Explosive Detection K9 for the Department of Homeland Security. Here he’s shown recovering after his second marathon dental procedure. Like virtually all our nation’s retired K9s, Bob receives zero retirement or other benefits from the government, so Paws of Honor supports Bob and his family by providing 100% of his veterinary and medical care -- but only with the help of wonderful donors like you!*



# What Will YOUR Legacy Be?

## Your Legacy Gift Proves Your Lasting Commitment to America's Four-Legged Heroes!

*“What I spent I lost; what I possessed is left to others; what I gave away remains with me.”  
-- Poet Joseph Addison*



Your bequest helps support hero pups like K9 Dan, who sadly passed away last April. Dan retired from the United States Air Force after working for almost 10 years.

Your past generosity has proven your commitment to helping America's brave retired military and law enforcement dogs. Now, won't you consider taking your giving to the next level by supporting them for years to come? It's simple and effective to do so by making a bequest to Paws of Honor in your will, insurance policy, or other planned giving option!

### Proper Language to Include When Making Your Bequest to Paws of Honor:

*“After Fulfilling All Other Provisions, I Give, Devise and Bequeath \_\_\_\_\_ Percent of the Residue of My Estate to Paws of Honor Tax ID # 47-5643489, Which Pays for the Medical Care of Retired Military as well as Federal, State, and Local Working Dogs.”*

*To schedule a confidential discussion of your options, email us at [info@pawsofhonor.org](mailto:info@pawsofhonor.org) or call (703) 403-8281. Paws of Honor does not provide legal or financial advice to prospective or current donors. Always consult your attorney and financial advisor before making any important decisions regarding your estate.*

## More Ways You Can Help America's Retired K9s:

- Shop [www.pawsofhonor.org/shop/](http://www.pawsofhonor.org/shop/) for great gear including t-shirts, baseball caps, and magnets to help spread the word about Paws of Honor and how we're helping America's heroes.
- Consider adopting a retired working dog. While most of these heroes stay with their handlers after retiring, some are unable to and need a good home and lots of love. There are many wonderful organizations which can help you with this process.
- Learn everything you can about the roles that these dogs play in our world, the level of training they receive, and their dedication to service in keeping us safe from danger.
- Sign your enclosed THANK YOU note to let a retired working dog's handler or veterinary care provider know you appreciate their service and care for America's four-legged heroes.

## See More of the Wonderful Dogs You're Helping on Facebook!

For more on your generosity in action -- and for regular updates with cute puppy faces! -- be sure to “like” **Paws of Honor** on Facebook (@pawsofhonor or @pawsofhonork9s)! You'll find photos, stories, and other exciting details about the impact of your generosity ... including heartwarming photos of the loyal K9s your giving supports!

## **“Thank YOU” From K9s and Handlers Helped By Donors Like You**

*Your gift to Paws of Honor helps provide veterinary care and products free of charge for retired military and law enforcement K9s who served our country bravely and are now in need of medical attention. The officers, handlers, and owners you're helping are so grateful for your support! Because, without your help, many would struggle to provide their furry companions with the proper medical attention they need to live healthy happy lives, even after they've retired from a life of service. The messages below are for YOU from K9 families supported by generous friends of Paws of Honor.*

**“Can’t say enough about the [Paws of Honor] program. Paying for your retired [Law Enforcement] or Military K9’s vet expenses can be overwhelming if they are not covered by your agency. Meds, vet visits are all paid for. I even have Banjo in the physical rehab program for his bad joints at no cost! I could not have provided this option on a retirement income.”**

– Handler of K9 Banjo, a retired Explosive Detection K9 with the National Institute of Standards & Technology

*“Our K9, King, retired after 6 years with the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority due to spinal stenosis and bulging discs in his neck. Most people don't realize that when K9's retire, their handlers take on the high costs/expenses of their care. Paws of Honor allows K9's and their handlers to stay together by providing all their veterinary care, prescriptions and food at no cost. Paws of Honor is an amazing organization! We are thankful for them allowing us to keep King comfortable and enjoying his retirement.” – Sheri D.*

**“K9 Cody is a recipient of Paws of Honor since the beginning of 2016. Earlier this year, while at [an animal hospital] for his wellness check they found a malignant mass cell tumor. Three surgeries in six weeks and was diagnosed as cancer free! He would not have celebrated his 10th birthday this month without this non-profit organization, the volunteers, staff at Old Dominion, donors, and the community. The government does not provide any retirement package to a K9 and they are the responsibility of the handlers once they retire. So there is no way we would not do everything we could to help them get the best care after the service they have provided our country! Paws of Honor is top notch and we will forever be grateful for the generosity they provided to K9 Cody and our family!” – Carrie P.**

*“I brought my retired Military Working Dog home after 9 years of Naval service. As with most Veterans, he has a plethora of health issues. However, unlike his human counterparts, he does not have any VA benefits or equivalent. Handlers that adopt their dogs are expected to handle these costs out of pocket. Paws of Honor has been a godsend.” – Megan W.*