

Your Generous Giving is Helping Keep Retired Heroes Like K9 Impulse Happy and Healthy!

At Paws of Honor, we care for America's retired law enforcement and military K9s all year long. And as we continue to celebrate the New Year, this is the perfect time to look back on the heroes we helped together, and show them a little extra love!

So the *K9 Corner* newsletter you're holding today is packed with stories of four-legged American heroes generous giving like yours has helped. I hope you're encouraged and uplifted by these stories.

I wanted to take a moment to share the story of a retired hero Paws of Honor helped recently. Military Working Dog (MWD) Impulse retired from the U.S. Army in December 2022. During his career, Impulse served one deployment to Iraq and conducted several missions for the President and other dignitaries.

This past fall, Impulse went to an animal clinic for an ultrasound after his bloodwork returned elevated during a routine check. During that ultrasound, a mass was found on his spleen. Impulse needed surgery immediately. At the start of surgery, the mass ruptured. The doctor said if he hadn't had surgery when he did, the outcome would not have



Hi! I'm retired Military Working Dog (MWD) Impulse. I served in the U.S. Army and appreciate the support you have shown to me and my other four-legged friends in our retirement.



My life was saved by emergency surgery paid for by caring friends like you. ~Impulse

been favorable. Fortunately, the surgery was successful.

Impulse's handler said, "I am MORE than grateful that I was able to purely focus on Impulse and stay up all night with him at the hospital trying to get his pain levels down and focus on his healing rather than worry about how much this surgery would have cost... I want to express how deeply appreciative I am of your organization and how quickly you all work to be able to take care of these old babies, especially in their immediate time of need! Thank you, thank you so much!"

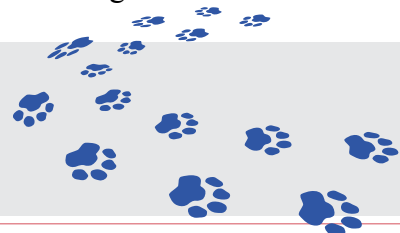
Because of friends like you, we've covered over \$3.8 million in vet care since 2015 and rely on private donations to fund this care. We receive zero government funding and couldn't help Impulse and his heroic friends without the support of donors like you.

So thank you for your caring heart and generous giving, which tell a four-legged hero, and a handler facing a pile of bills for veterinary care, that their service and sacrifices have not been forgotten.

Inside Your Paws of Honor K9 Corner Newsletter:

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Meet These 2 Four-Legged Heroes New to the Paws of Honor Family



Explosive Detection K9 Tramp

K9 Tramp is a 9 year old Labrador Retriever who was trained as an explosive detection K9. She worked in the Washington, D.C. area and was charged with protecting Federal Buildings like The Kennedy Center.

Explosive Detection K9 Caki

K9 Caki's primary job was Passenger Screening for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). Now, he's enjoying a well-deserved peaceful retirement. Your support is a salute to retired K9s like Caki and their handlers for their service. Thank you for this often-lifesaving care!



Results of the "K9 of the Month" Contest!

In a recent K9 Corner newsletter, we surveyed our Paws of Honor family -- supporters like you -- to see who the K9 of the Month winner is. In an extremely tight race, K9 Harriet won the contest with 19% of the vote. Congratulations, K9 Harriet!

We value the feedback of our loyal donors and are always eager to hear from you. Look for the next contest or survey in an upcoming K9 Corner issue. Thank you for your continued support!

K9 of the Month: Harriet!

Mark Your Calendar with 12 Important Dog Days in 2024

- 1. January 24** is Peanut Butter Day (honoring the creamy creation that helps treat and train many dogs)
- 2. February** is Dog Training Education Month
- 3. March 13** is K9 Veterans Day
- 4. April 27** is World Veterinary Day (honoring the heroes who care for our furry friends)
- 5. May 10** is German Shepherd Day (one of the most common working dog breeds)
- 6. July** is National Lost Pet Prevention Month
- 7. August 26** is National Dog Day
- 8. August 28** is Rainbow Bridge Remembrance Day
- 9. September 8** is National Pet Memorial K9 Day
- 10. October 21** is National Pets for Veterans Day
- 11. November 3-9** is National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week
- 12. December 2** is National Mutt Day



Please Consider Remembering These Heroic Dogs in Your Will This New Year

*By making a bequest to Paws of Honor you can help alleviate
their pain and suffering long after you're gone.*

“Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole.” — Photographer & writer Roger Caras

The start of a new year is the perfect time to assess your charitable giving ... figure out what really matters ... and resolve to make a difference. Remembering Paws of Honor in a charitable bequest is a wonderful way to ensure your legacy of support for America's brave retired military and law enforcement working dogs for generations 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 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.



K9 Cappy and other retired four-legged heroes celebrated the New Year because friends like YOU help provide emergency medical care and other needed veterinary services for them.



*Giving monthly to provide urgent
medical care to America's hero dogs*

Please Consider Joining Our Monthly Giving Club to Help Us Plan Ahead for K9 Surgeries and Emergency Care

Paws of Honor's **K9 Companion Club** is a simple and secure way YOU can help care for America's K9 heroes after they retire from service -- with some great benefits that make it as easy as possible for you to continue your faithful patriotic support for America's four-legged heroes! If you join...

- ★ Your monthly donation is conveniently charged to your credit card each month, saving you time writing checks and searching for stamps.
- ★ Your monthly gift benefits even more K9 heroes – because knowing we can count on your gift allows us to plan ahead financially and maximize our effectiveness.
- ★ You'll still receive important program updates and newsletters like this one, to see how your monthly gifts are improving and saving the lives of our retired hero dogs.
- ★ You'll have direct access by phone and email to your K9 Companion Club Concierge Desk, exclusive only for monthly donors. You will have full control over your monthly giving. You can change your giving amount, pause or, if needed, cancel until such time as when you are again available to support America's hero dogs.



“I'm K9 Thor, a retired federal law enforcement working dog trained in Explosive Detection -- and Chair Dog of the K9 Companion Club for monthly giving. On behalf of America's retired hero dogs, I invite you to become a founding Partner of Paws of Honor's K9 Companion Club.”

Your monthly gift can be life-changing in any amount. So I hope you'll join the **K9 Companion Club** today -- 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.*

Please Take a Moment to Pay a Final Tribute to Some of the Brave, Hard-Working Dogs that Passed Away in 2023



◀ In 2022, K9 Pulsar needed surgery to remove a two-pound tumor from his back, which would have cost his handler almost \$4,000. But because of caring Americans like you, Paws of Honor was able to pay for the surgery, extending his life in retirement. Sadly, late last year, Pulsar passed away. His handler

shared: “My family and I are extremely thankful and appreciative of the generosity and work Paws of Honor does for these amazing animals.”



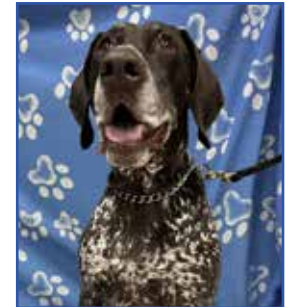
◀ K9 Mojo worked as an Explosive Detection dog for the Transportation Security Administration from 2011 to 2018. Unfortunately, this adorable pup passed away a few months ago. Thank you for helping retired K9s like Mojo!

▶ K9 Cooper was an Explosive Detection dog for the Department of State. Cooper and his handler worked together for three years as the first line of defense for the Secretary of the U.S.

Their last mission was intense and Cooper experienced seizures in the line of duty which led to his retirement. Unfortunately, this loyal dog passed away in October.



▶ K9 Pigi served diligently for the Phoenix Police Department from 2014 to 2021. She loved being around people and loved chasing small critters during her retirement. Pigi fought cancer two times, but passed away in October.



When a military or police K9 dies, part of the ceremony includes the reading of this poem which reflects the powerful bond between officer and dog. We share it with you to honor the service of military and law enforcement K9s who dedicated their lives (and in some cases gave their lives) to serve our country.

The Guardians of the Night

Trust in me my friend for I am your comrade.
I will protect you with my last breath.
When all others have left you
And the loneliness of the night closes in,
I will be at your side.

Together we will conquer all obstacles
And search out those who might wish harm to others.
All I ask of you is compassion,
The caring touch of your hands.
It is for you that I will selflessly give my life
And spend my nights unrested.

Although our days together
May be marked by the passing of the seasons.
Know that each day at your side is my reward.
My days are measured by
The coming and going of your footsteps.
I anticipate them at the opening of the door.
You are the voice of caring when I am ill.
The voice of authority over me when I've done wrong.
Do not chastise me unduly
For I am your right arm,
The sword at your side.

I attempt to do only what you bid of me.
I seek only to please you and remain in your favor.
Together you and I shall experience
A bond only others like you will understand.
When outsiders see us together
Their envy will be measured by their disdain.
I will quietly listen to you
And pass no judgement.
Nor will your spoken words be repeated.
I will remain ever silent,
Ever vigilant, ever loyal.

And when our time together is done
And you move on in the world,
Remember me with kind thoughts and tales.
For a time we were unbeatable,
Nothing passed among us undetected.
If we should ever meet again on another field
I will gladly take up your fight.
I am a Police Working Dog and together
We are GUARDIANS of the NIGHT.