



BUDDY, CGC, TT, BELOVED CANINE OF DEBI PALMER

On the afternoon of December 12, 2008, canine Buddy passed away at the estimated age of 13 with his owner, Debi Palmer, at his side at the [Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital \(VMTH\)](#) at the [University of California in Davis \(UCD\)](#).

Buddy was diagnosed with [Canine Cushing's Syndrome](#) in December of 2005 and was put on [Vetoryl\(R\) \(Trilostane\)](#) to treat the [Cushing's symptoms](#). The Trilostane treatment controlled the excess cortisol in Buddy's system and gave him quality of life until July 15, 2008 when he collapsed and was hospitalized at UCD VMTH. Within the week, Debi learned Buddy's tumor was in the [10 – 20% of tumors that grow and cause significant neurological symptoms](#).

Buddy had been prescribed prednisone to help with the swelling on his brain. The long goodbye began. Debi was very grateful for every moment she had left with Buddy. In the last week, Buddy exhibited [neurological complications](#) from the [pituitary macroadenoma or adenocarcinoma](#) growing on his pituitary gland.

Debi made the difficult decision to humanely euthanize Buddy. Buddy's body was donated to the UCD School of Veterinary Medicine to allow their students to learn up close and personal about pituitary tumors and the long-term effects of Cushing's on the canine body through a [necropsy](#). Buddy's ashes were spread on a private ranch in Davis, CA.

Buddy was found wandering the streets of Richmond, California at approximately one year of age. A friend tried to get Debi to adopt Buddy for almost a year, but all Debi could think was "*What would I do with a "pit bull?"*" About a year later, Debi's friend became desperate to find Buddy a home so Debi reluctantly volunteered to help her.

Too many questionable men asked Debi about Buddy; they only wanted to know if he could father pups and they were too impressed with his size and his cropped ears. No one asked about his temperament. Buddy was a great dog and he could easily be a weapon in the wrong hands. Within three weeks Buddy had wrapped Debi around his paw and now one of Debi's favorite quotes is:

"It is true that Pit Bulls grab and hold on. But what they most often grab and refuse to let go of is your heart, not your arm." - Vicki Hearne

Buddy's [temperament](#) epitomized the American Pit Bull Terrier (APBT). Buddy strongly resembled the Wallace line in the book, [This is the American Pit Bull Terrier](#) by [Richard F. Stratton](#). Debi believed Buddy was a pit bull especially after she read that pit bulls are not incessant barkers and that pit bulls are people dogs. Buddy never barked at a human and he never met a stranger. Many of Debi's friends said Buddy was a great ambassador for pit bulls.

Debi and Buddy had an opportunity to participate in [BADRAP's Pit Education](#) and [Canine Good Citizen \(CGC\) Coaching](#) classes. Buddy passed the [American Temperament Test \(TT\)](#) and the [American Kennel Club's CGC Test](#). Debi was convinced she had adopted an angel and she thanked God everyday for putting Buddy in her life. Debi considered Buddy her [personal therapy dog](#). Their special bond was few understand [pit bulls](#) and few understand [traumatic brain injury \(TBI\)](#).

Buddy leaves behind his owner of 10 years and 8 months, Debi; his rescued feline sister and brother, Holly and Tommy Cat; human fans from [PETCO](#), the BADRAP community and throughout Alameda and Northern California; and many others including special canine friends and their people. In alphabetical order by canine (with owner), Angel (Rosie); Blackjack (Karen & Ulu); Callie (Margy & Virgil); Greta (Nandi & Talie); Gumbo (Joyce); Lizzy (Shirley); Millie (Jane & Jim); Patti (Steve); Pippin (Karen); and Shatzee (Bev).

Tax deductible charitable contributions in Buddy's memory can be made to [Bay Area Dog lovers Responsible About Pit bulls \(BADRAP\)](#), PO Box 320776, San Francisco, CA 94132-0776 or the **Humane Society of Alameda**, PO Box 1571, Alameda, CA 94501.

Please add in the check memo "**Buddy Palmer**" so **BADRAP** and/or the **Humane Society of Alameda** can inform Buddy's owner that you or your business has made a donation in his memory and she can send a personal thank you.