

A Tribute to Molly

In 2003 Sam and Brenda first adopted Pebbles and she quickly bonded with Brenda. Several months later they decided to adopt another dog, specifically another Miniature Pincher. Sam was jealous of the close companionship that Pebbles and Brenda shared and really wanted to experience the special friendship between man and dog. That is how Molly came into our lives.

The first day Molly came home she nearly spent the entire day hiding behind the toilet commode. It didn't take long for Molly to adjust to her new home; in fact it didn't take her long to realize she could assume the alpha dog position with no objections from Pebbles. She took her job very seriously and would take it upon herself to let everyone know she was outside by barking and barking and barking. Occasionally Molly would actually have something to bark at, but usually it was just to inform everyone she was the boss of her yard and she accepted any and all challenges.

Surprisingly Molly had no fear tackling any obstacle with her head held high even though she had major surgery before we got her. This left her without a couple muscles on her back toward her hind legs. We were told that she possibly got into a fight with a bigger dog, and I'm sure that fueled her desire to conquer the world.

Molly also had another side to her. Many people were unaware of the big heat Molly had and the unconditional love she had for her best friend, Sam. She would always stay close to Sam and would rarely leave his side. She would accompany him to work each day along with Pebbles and they would sleep near his desk until it was time for their afternoon walk. Molly was also very in tune to Sam's emotions and would interrupt whatever Sam was doing if he became too stressed out. If Sam ignored her subtle request for attention she would proceed to bark at him until he had no choice but to stop what he was doing and let Molly calm him down.

Sam and Molly were inseparable. They went on frequent camping trips, too many to count, all across Arizona and many other trips including a visit to Sam's sister in Washington and a couple trips to California to visit family. Molly even went with Sam on business appointments and was even an honorary scooter passenger on Sam's day trips with his church friends who also rode scooters or motorcycles.

Of course Molly would not settle for anything less than the best. Her favorite mode of transportation was Sam's specially modified scooter. It took Sam a couple tries but Sam figured out a way to not only allow Molly to ride on his scooter safely, but also Pebbles. He mounted a dog crate on the back of his scooter which lifted Molly and Pebbles high enough to see almost every pedestrian and bicyclist so they did not miss out on any potential barking opportunities.

A few years later Molly and Pebbles got a brother Hershey who is also a Min Pin. His owner underestimated the breed and was unable to handle the mixture of puppyhood and bigger than life attitude of Hershey. Molly assumed the role of big sister and taught him all of the naughty things Molly enjoyed doing like chasing cats, and creating chaos by barking when it was too quiet. She also taught him a few good things like how to use the doggy door and most importantly how to con Sam into giving him treats.

Molly even taught Sam a few things. Well she didn't really have to teach Sam much because Sam was already a trouble maker, but Molly did not hesitate to encourage Sam to bend the rules. Sam would on occasion sneak Molly into establishments that wouldn't ordinarily allow dogs, but because Sam hid her in a black mesh dog carrier, didn't get caught. Amazingly Molly knew exactly what was going on because it was one of the only times she wouldn't bark. Just as Molly encouraged Sam, Sam also encouraged Molly to be the full trouble maker she had the potential of being by encouraging her to do whatever she wanted even if Molly felt like going outside to do some after-hours barking. Sam and Molly shared an intolerance for stray cats. Sam would always encourage Molly to chase cats out of their yard so the stray cats wouldn't have their kittens behind the house.

About a year or so ago, Molly was diagnosed with an enlarged heart. Thankfully God granted Sam one last year with Molly with the help of daily medications. In Molly's last year she was able to go on many camping trips, business appointments with Sam, one last Rex Allen Day in Wilcox, Arizona, walks at the park, rides on the scooter, welcoming President Obama to Tucson, watching the New Orleans Saints do the impossible and win the super bowl, chasing cats and just doing her usual trouble making.

Molly and Sam spent a little over 8 years together attached at the hip. Her memories are forever etched into Sam's hear and those who had the privileged of knowing the condensed Doberman Pincher, Molly.

Therefore you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your heart will rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you. John 16:22 (NKJV)



Molly at Mt. Lemmon



Molly (left) teaching Hershey the correct way to look out of the window



Pebbles, Hershey and Molly (right to left)
going on another adventure



Sam's grandkids (Jennica & Sierra) with Pebbles Hershey and Molly on another camping trip



Pebbles, Hershey and Molly going on a scooter ride with Sam



Molly (right) always ready to be co-pilot if needed