

My Dog, Darby



Darby on Grass Mountain Day, 2002

Dear Midland Community,

It is with a heavy heart that I write you today and inform you of Darby's passing as of yesterday afternoon. Midland is truly a dog's heaven among all other places I have ever known. During my four years at Midland I had Darby for three of them, picking him up at the pound in the summer of 2001. 10 years later it was apparent that his old age had gotten the best of him.

Our time together at Midland truly solidified our bond as no other place could have done. He was my best friend and most trusted confidant, always willing to give me a sobering lick when I was feeling homesick or upset. I wished I could have brought him back to Midland one more time, but alas the trip would have been too much for him.

Some of my happiest memories are of Darby and I going out on horseback among the many riding trails, or camping with friends at Senior Cabin. Even those many nights I caught him nose deep in the slop bucket behind the kitchen, with hoards of other dogs waiting for him to have his fill. He honestly was home sick whenever I brought him back to Burlingame for our week long breaks, and upon driving back down Figueroa Mtn. Road, he would immediately perk up in the back seat of our Volvo and begin to pant. He knew he was going home. I truly believe he's there now, running among the wildflowers on Grass Mountain.

Best,

Ethan R. Leavy '04