

Natural Healing Express Weekly

Column 331 Sweet Pup Cabo

This past week has been the saddest I have been in, well...since the passing of my folks. On Tuesday we lost our sweet Shiba Inu, Cabo. Cabo passed away on his terms –peacefully snuggled in my arms.

Cabo was one of those once in a lifetime dogs and if you have visited our store since its opening some seven years ago now, you most likely have met him.

When Cabo and I locked eyes some 16 years ago, I was the one who felt chosen. Yes, 16 years ago. The lifespan of these pups is around 12 years, but we were blessed with 16 and change. Praise God.

And, I did feel chosen. In fact, the wise gentleman there at the time said, “well, he looks like he is meant to be your pup.” And he followed shortly thereafter with, “in my experience, Shibas will steal the moment.” And steal the moment he did. Cabo would find a way to crack you up whether it was hopping inside of someone else’s limo while on a walk downtown to getting us upgraded to first class on long flights with his absolute cuteness to peeing on the pantleg of the animal “cop” in LA that gave us a ticket for being off leash, he was always thinking of a way to steal the moment. On time, while bringing him to the hospital rehabilitation center to cheer up my brother, he allowed himself to be wrapped up in huge towel with only one ear sticking out and then leapt onto his bed and grabbed the remote as soon as we entered the room changing the channel to what he preferred. Once as a puppy, he dug through the kids’ luggage, locating a bag of snicker bars by opening the zippered bag, meticulously unsealing the zip lock bag, then tearing opening the snickers bag and finally individually opening each wrapper and consuming as many as he wanted. Of course, we were mortified and rushed him off to the local vet who looked at us amazingly and said, “what else would you expect from a Shiba?” And, the only complication of this out come was picking up more peanuts than usual during his “outside” time.

Cabo has entertained us from racetracks, to concerts, to parties, to hospitals, to work and of course play. He never knew a stranger and would immediately put everyone at ease. Cabo and I met in Los

Angeles and ran/walked on the beach everyday that we lived there. He absolutely loved the sand on his feet and prancing along soaking in the sunshine. Oh, to recall those beautiful days.

Cabo was my constant companion and we travelled to over 40 states together throughout my racing and music endeavors. He quickly adapted to therapy pup and furthered his career visiting hospitals and those in need. He sat there patiently waiting while I finished each detail and then opened our flagship store, Natural Healing Express. He demanded his bed be in the front room and was found pulling his bed in front of the most westerly window for maximum sunshine. And, of course, I did not argue.

One did not have to wait long for Cabo to share his unique opinion on the issue. Whether it was bed location, food, temperature or a person or animal, we always knew where he stood on things.

Cabo had a distinct, “pffttt” that meant, “heck no”. And 99 percent of the time, he was correct.

In December, we were blessed to be able to take him for one last beach walk and we lingered for a long time, enjoying every second. We understood his time was getting small. And we understood how blessed we were to have shared this amazing boy.

If I can advise anything at this point, if you are able to have a pet, please get one. They are amazing companions and if allowed, will shower you with unconditional love that one cannot get from any other source. There are thousands of pets out there needing your help and wanting your love. And, on the flipside, if you a pet and you cannot adequately care for them, please contact a local vet that can give you guidance. They deserve your best care and when their time draws near, it is your duty to stay with them and give them peace. One of the most meaningful things shared this past week was from a longtime friend from Indianapolis who shared, “your pup shared a large portion of your life, but you were all of his.” I cried like a baby.... for hours....

Cabo, you were indeed the greatest dog on the planet. Godspeed my beautiful boy...

Huge shout out to Orangeville Vet Clinic! You guys are amazing. Thank you...

Lots of wonderful things happening at Natural Healing Express! And the Silver Fox café is the place to be!

Come try some healthy gourmet food – delicious and fast! Dr. Susan is available on Wednesdays and Saturdays and by appointment!

Enjoy! Hope to see you soon and as always, please contact us via one of the following methods. Natural

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