

Dear LeAnn and Sue,

I just want you to know how much Merlot means to our family. He is such a joy.

I knew he was special when my five year old son, who had a scary experience with a big dog at the age of three, showed no fear when he was introduced to Merlot at C.A.R.E. last December. He held him in his lap and hugged him and said he wanted this dog to come home with us. He hadn't been that comfortable with any dog that quickly in two years.

The following morning I came downstairs to find my older son had taken Merlot out of his kennel and had fallen asleep with him in his arms on the family room floor.

We started training classes right away and Merlot was at the head of his class. He was so easy.

He has his own group of friends at the dog park. He loves to socialize with people as well as other dogs. We do this about four times a week or more if possible. Merlot is so polite, he greets every dog entering the park at the gate and he says goodbye at the gate when they leave. Even his groomer tells me all the time how well mannered Merlot is.

There hasn't been anyone who has met Merlot who doesn't fall in love with him. You don't know how many times I have heard people say to me, "If you decide you don't want him anymore just give me a call and we'll take him". My comment to that is "Never, don't even go there"! Merlot is a part of our family. We don't give up on a family member. We love for a lifetime and so does he.

Thanks again to everyone at C.A.R.E. for the great job your doing for these wonderful animals.

The Phillip Family