

Christie, beloved HOPE dog of Sandi Welch, EUS

Christie was raised as a show dog and had been used as a breeder. She was given to me at the age of five. Christie was special right away and had a loving and kind way about her. She got her therapy certification and began to work her magic immediately. I always considered her a gift from God because she helped so many people. Always the diva, whether in a nursing home, school or church, she brought happiness to so many people. Her favorite activities were those that involved children. Her favorite location was Sandston Elementary School where she was the unofficial mascot and unofficial member of the mentoring team. She visited every classroom once a month for four years. Every child knew that she was approachable and loved to be hugged. She also attended assemblies, concerts and field days. On the field days, children were constantly bringing her water, popsicles and cold towels when it was hot. She brought out the best in these children and they miss her still. Christie loved the people and dogs in HOPE and was an excellent representative for them. She is terribly missed but touched so many people that she will not soon be forgotten. Christie was born December 1, 1994, at Telltale Kennels, Manakin-Sabot, VA and died March 26, 2006 in Sandston, VA.