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Mason's Story



My love for collies was greatly inspired by Lassie, my childhood hero. I never missed a TV show or movie. My mother, Myrna, knew my love for Lassie so every holiday I got a new color book, stuffed animal, or collie figurine. I also loved Lad of Sunnybank, Wolf, Bruce, and the other great Albert Payson Terhune collies. These dogs were loyal and brave and great protectors of children and small animals. I grew up loving collies and knew at a young age, this was the breed for me. However, I was not able to get my first collie until I moved out on my own. My father was in the Navy and we traveled a lot and collies are big dogs, so we got a poodle, Monique, though I knew where every collie lived in the neighborhood and was often allowed to walk their dogs. I got my first collie in 1976, a blue merle, Jamie. I wanted a sable and white with a blaze like Lassie, but she was the last one left, but I soon found out a collie is a collie no matter what the color. I loved her dearly for many years. My second collie was Logan, a rescue collie left tied to a tree one bitter cold Christmas Eve with no shelter. I received a call from a local veterinarian asking if I would like to adopt this collie and without hesitation Logan became my new collie. I owned and loved Logan for 12 years and he was a part of our family while my children were young. I have had collies for over 30 years and still they are the only breed of dog for me.

Mason joined our family in 2003 when he was 8 weeks old. We met Kathy, who is now a dear friend, at a dog show. She just happened to have collie puppies at home, and I was without a collie at the time. My daughter, Heather, picked Mason out of 10 puppies, she wanted the one with the big full white collar and blaze on his face, because he looked like Lassie. She picked him up and didn't put him down again until we got home. She knew there was something special about him and she was right. A year and a half later, Mason was living the life of a family dog when my friend Kathy told me about a company looking for a collie for an upcoming movie. They were looking for a large traditional classic collie and Mason fit the description. I hesitated because Mason was a part of our family, but I also knew he was very special with rare qualities to share with others.

Kathy encouraged me to send his picture in (the one on the bottom of the page), and we were very honored when Mason was selected to play a lead role in a movie filmed in Ireland. I believe he played his character well and we are very proud of him and glad he is back home enjoying a quiet life on the farm. Mason's picture has appeared in magazines such as "Time," "Dog Fancy," "People," and "Good Housekeeping," and many newspapers.

Mason is a very intelligent dog, as collies are. You only have to show him something new a couple of times and he catches on quickly. He knows a lot of "tricks," mostly by hand signals. He will speak, shake hands, yawn, bow, dig with his front paws, play dead, crawl, limp, lower his head, raise his head, breakaway out of a collar, roll a ball with his nose, climb up and down stairs, and of course sit, down, stay, come, wait, heel, fetch, and give a kiss on the cheek. We think Mason is everything a collie should be, loving, gentle, intelligent, loyal, and beautiful. He is always happy and has a wonderful attitude. He loves everybody; in fact, he makes people feel special, like they are his best friend no matter who they are. When he was a puppy he visited a nursing home where my 98-year-old grandmother lived and the old folks loved him. He brought back memories of their collie on the farm. Mason adores children and cats. Collies in general have these traits and that is what makes them very special, but it does take a lot of training to have a dog like Mason. Mason was not born knowing all these things. He was professionally trained in a very positive way. Mason truly is a dream come true!



My Collie, My Love, So gentle and loving, right from the start. That sweet collie look, has captured my heart. Devoted and loyal, true blue to the end, a perfect companion, a wonderful friend. With eyes warm and smiling, a heart of pure gold, a collie has touched me and made my life whole. (In loving memory of Mason's sire, Casey, of Coppermoon Collies).





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