



Heidi's Hope
For Homeless Animals
Transforming Animal Lives From Homeless to Homes

Pawsatively Good News!

October 2023

HeidisHopeForHomelessAnimals.com

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**Saving Lives of Homeless Dogs
and Cats and Feeding Hungry
Pets In Our Community**

**Cooper's Corner
A Very Sad Message about
Our CCO,
Chief Canine Officer**



It is with immense sadness and a heavy heart that I share the news of the loss of my precious little Cooper. He was more than just a pet to me; he was a part of my family. He was Chief Canine Officer (CCO) of Heidi's Hope for Homeless Animals, Inc.; author of *Cooper's Corner*; Captain of the Kayak; Super Duper Cooper; a beloved member of our community and my precious little buddy.

I am incredibly proud of how far he came from when I adopted him. Like many rescue pets, he had some behavioral challenges that we needed to work through, but with patience, love, training, and dedication, he transformed into the most precious, loving, caring and wonderful dog!

Cooper was dedicated to helping his fellow dogs and cats in need. Together, we worked tirelessly in our fundraising efforts to collect pet food for hurricane-impacted pets and to fill the shelves of our Pet Food Bank. Each time we picked up carloads of pet food and supplies, Cooper thought the donations were for him and thought he had won the lottery! As we continued working on pet donation drives, he realized none of it was for him (he got plenty of food and treats his Mom bought him).

He was so adorable that he looked like a stuffed animal with his precious little face, big paws and his wagging little nub! His personality bloomed and he loved everyone, and, in turn, they loved him. Cooper had an innate

His adoption ad read, “*Will be euthanized if not adopted soon. Time running out...*”. His adoption photos revealed a deep sadness in his eyes, as if longing to be loved. I am so thankful that I was able to adopt him before his time ran out! When I met Cooper for the first time, he would not even look at me—he was so fearful from his past. When I brought him home, he showed signs of being hand-shy, which sadly indicates signs of being abused. To test my suspicions, I mimicked the actions of hitting, and he immediately went into self-defense mode. I was heartbroken to see his fear and knew that he had been abused in the past. Through my tears, I promised him that I would never let anyone, or anything hurt him again.

Cooper learned to trust and excelled in his training. He loved learning (especially working for treats!) and went on to become a certified therapy dog. We soon discovered many fun activities that we explored together. The first time I took him to the beach, he barked at the ocean—terrified of seeing it for the first time. He soon became a beach dog with regular sunrise and sunset walks on the beach (dog season, of course!). Car rides were a favorite of Cooper’s—whether we went on a road trip or just a quick trip around the block, he couldn’t contain his excitement of going for a car ride! We enjoyed kayaking in the Intracoastal Waterway, where Cooper was Captain of the Kayak! He especially loved going into Woof Gang Bakery for chicken chips for his Kong and visiting friends at The UPS Store! He was always by my side as we went for walks or visited friends.
(Continued)

ability to sense the emotions of those around him and would offer comfort and love to those who needed it most. He instinctively knew who needed the comfort of a dog and would go sit on their feet to comfort them. When he sensed a newly adopted fellow rescue dog, he would befriend them and help them to get acclimated into their new family. Cooper was a true friend to both people and animals, and his gentle spirit will be deeply missed.

Cooper’s passing was on his Five Year Gotch Day. It is beyond heart-wrenching to say goodbye to my furry little friend. I made a promise to Cooper that, as a tribute to his memory, I will establish *Cooper Cares*, a section under our Heidi’s Hope for Homeless Animals. It will evolve over time and the mission will be toward helping animals in need, just as Cooper did throughout his life. The mission of *Cooper Cares* will be to fulfill Cooper’s dream of finding loving forever homes for every dog and cat and feeding hungry pets in need. I believe that this is the best way to celebrate and honor Cooper’s life and keep his spirit alive. As the Chief Canine Officer (CCO) of Heidi’s Hope for Homeless Animals, Inc. who dedicated his life to helping his fellow dogs and cats in need, Cooper would want it this way.

Cooper will always hold a special place in my heart. Cooper brought so much joy and love into my life, and I will always cherish the wonderful memories we shared. I find comfort in knowing that he is now in a better place, watching over me from Heaven. His presence will be deeply missed, but his memory will be cherished forever.



Do Pets Go to the Rainbow Bridge or Do Pets Go To Heaven?

What the Bible Says About Animals

[Read scriptures that relate to animals and what is said of them:](#)



Ready To Adopt Your New Best Friend?

**Check Out These Sites for
Adoptable Pets In Need of Good Homes:**

Please Make Adoption Your Only Option!

- [New Hanover Sheriff's Office Animal Services Unit](#)
- [PawPrints Magazine by PawPrints Magazine](#) -
- [More Adoption Options and Pet Resources](#)
- [PetFinder](#)
- [Adopt-a-Pet](#)

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**Heidi's Hope For Homeless
Animals...Saving Homeless
Dogs and Cats and
Filling Pets' Bowls with
Food and Hope!**



Donate



Heidi's Hope for Homeless Animals, Inc. is a 501 (c) organization that is an intake organization who helps pets at risk of euthanasia and helps prevent owner surrender. The Bow Wow Luau & The Cat's Meow® has donated over \$70,000.00 to reduce shelter euthanasia. Our Pet Food Bank prevents owner surrenders and has donated 134,155 LBS. of pet food. We created a unique coalition of local governmental agencies and human charitable organizations to provide pet food to the most food insecure. We expanded our Pet Food Bank and Pet Meals On Wheels Chapters in Onslow, Pender and Brunswick Counties. WoofStock, adopts at-risk dogs and cats. Our Disaster Relief Programs filled three tractor trailers with pet food to hurricane-impacted areas from Hurricanes Maria; Florence and Dorian. We sent two crates of pet food to help Hurricane Ian pet victims. We sent five pallets of pet food to war-torn Ukraine. We are committed to saving the lives of homeless dogs and cats and will not stop until all dogs and cats have good homes!

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