

Good bye to my buddy

January 7, 2013

Today is the day, little buddy, when I say good bye to you. You have been my good and faithful best friend for 13 1/2 years and now the ravages of kidney failure have taken you from me. We will meet again. But for now I will write my tribute to you.

How do I find the words to describe the time with you in my life? What a ride and oh what a thrill it has been. In everything you did, you gave it your all...always. You never let up regardless of the circumstances. Always your eyes said to me, "More, more, I can give you more". And give you did. Every time you were on the ground to run, you amazed me with your grace and power. Your unrelenting attack of whatever ground you were on was always fun to watch as you would race around and fly over the hills in search of the next covey of birds. No matter what I did with you, you always gave it your very best. We had fun, didn't we little buddy, at the Nationals as we redefined what someone could do in the Parade of Titleholders ring? What fun we had making people laugh as you ran and jumped after your squeaky toy. No matter what I wanted you to do, you did with gusto. We were a team that was hard to beat.

Many who knew us together would marvel at what a team we were. I know it will be hard to find that in another. With as many times as you have been bred, I have never kept a puppy until this last litter. Born in October, 2011 it was to be your last litter because within two short months you were sterile as a result of the progressing kidney failure. Mack was born into a litter of 11 beautiful pups. Thank you for giving me this amazing gift. The year you and I were able to give him as you helped to begin shaping his attack of the field will be invaluable as he now takes the baton. Your pace had slowed but you still knew what to do and you took him by the hand as he was just a little pup to show him to go to the tree lines, run hard and fast. So cute as he chased you through the field. Then quickly he was out running you and his time to compete had come and your time with us was growing shorter and shorter.

Today as your once strong legs went out from under you, I knew it was time. Your loving eyes always so willing to please said "I can't do anymore". My promise to you was that you would never have to suffer. Ever. It is time for you to go. I will see you again. I love you now as always, my little buddy. Rest in eternal peace, my best friend.