In Tribute to K-9 Partners…

White Rose feels privileged to offer free cremation for dogs who have devoted their lives to service in K-9 police units, whether they have lost their lives in the line of duty or passed in peace.*

White Rose dedicates these pages to K-9 Partners

K9 Falco
Belchertown Police Department—2008-2016
Officer Adam Brougham, Handler

K9 Falco started work with the Belchertown Police Department in 2008. He was imported from Holland and was purchased with generous donations from the community. He was the first canine the town ever had and I was the first handler. Falco was dual purpose trained in patrol work and narcotics. As a team, we had high expectations placed on us, and we had to make our new unit work. Through his career with the department Falco had several successful tracks and narcotic finds. One of his best tracks came on a February night in below zero temperatures. He located an endangered female who would have died in the elements if we didn't find her.

Falco took part in many public demonstrations that helped bolster the department’s community policing efforts. Falco was a hard dog. He was very strong-willed and was a great challenge to a handler just starting out. He also had playful and goofy sides. He loved cats. He had a squeaky monkey that was a favorite toy. He also loved his red kong ball. He loved rides in the back of his golf cart. He also had a rooster that was very near and dear to his heart. The rooster and Falco would spend hours together every day in the yard. In May 2016 he was diagnosed with stomach cancer. He will be greatly missed by his handler and those that were close to him in his life. I would like to thank White Rose for giving Falco the respect he deserved and the amazing support they provided in our time of need.

Falco, until I can grab your leash on the other side. Never above you, never below you, always beside you.

Please see additional tributes on the following pages.

Guardians of the Night
Trust in me my friend for I am your comrade.
I will protect you with my last breath.
When all others have left you
And the loneliness of the night closes in,
I will be at your side.
Together we will conquer all obstacles
And search out those who might wish harm to others.
All I ask of you is compassion.
The caring touch of your hands.
It is for you that I will selflessly give my life
And spend my nights unrested.
Although our days together
May be marked by the passing of the seasons.
Know that each day at your side is my reward.
My days are measured by
The coming and going of your footsteps.
I anticipate them at the opening of the door.
You are the voice of caring when I am ill.
The voice of authority over me when I’ve done wrong.
Do not chastise me unduly
For I am your right arm,
The sword at your side.
I attempt to do only what you bid of me.
I seek only to please you and remain in your favor.
Together you and I shall experience
A bond only others like you will understand.
When outsiders see us together
Their envy will be measured by their disdain.
I will quietly listen to you
And pass no judgment.
Nor will your spoken words be repeated.
I will remain ever silent,
Ever vigilant, ever loyal.
And when our time together is done
And you move on in the world,
Remember me with kind thoughts and tales.
For a time we were unbeatable,
Nothing passed among us undetected.
If we should ever meet again on another field
I will gladly take up your fight.
I am a Police Working Dog and together
We are GUARDIANS of the NIGHT.

White Rose will update these pages regularly with tributes to all the K-9 partners we have the privilege to serve when their lives are over.

* Handlers are asked to provide White Rose with the name and address of the department, the handler’s name, a copy of the K-9 certification and the dates of service.
by Denise Reilly-Hughes

It's difficult to express what we experienced as a family upon losing Bodhan. A few months ago we were told Kevin's State Police canine, Bohdan, had cancer. But the veterinarians were hopeful that with treatment, he had a 70% chance of recovery. Bo (as we affectionately called him) underwent treatment, and seemed to be doing better. In early October of 2014, we noticed he started declining again and realized he was in the unfortunate 30% and the cancer was going to cost him his life.

Bohdan was brought to the United States from Slovakia with the sole purpose of becoming a Vermont State Police (VSP) canine for a first-time handler who had aspirations of making a long-term career as a canine handler. Kevin and Bohdan bonded right away. They learned how to work together and how they could depend on each other. They completed the required training together and set off on a seven-and-a-half-year partnership, working night after night. Bohdan became a regular at the barracks and among other troopers, canine handlers, and dispatchers within VSP, and the rest of the state. At the same time, during his time off, he was becoming a pet to a growing family.

You would think becoming a police canine was the difficult part, but for Bo it was acclimating to becoming a pet. Bohdan was a very commanding dog. He walked in the room and people stopped, some stepped back, others hesitated. He was dominant in almost all he did. But as strong as his exterior was, his interior was equally as soft. He wanted to be loved the most, brushed the longest, fed first. And over the years, in order to keep the peace, that's exactly what he got. He didn't ask for much, but what he asked for... he received.

Bohdan took his police work seriously. Over the last seven years he had many search finds, including tracking down a murder suspect hiding in a house after murdering an innocent elderly woman. Bo's favorite place to be was on I-91 waiting for the right car to pass so he could be called out to find the drugs hidden inside. That was always followed by a worthy treat for a good find. He found many drugs on the interstate, including one in which he hit on a few hundred bags of heroin under the car seat holding a young child. His efforts and successes seemed endless.

When Bohdan was diagnosed with cancer, the decision was made to retire him from VSP to focus on his treatment and health. That was a hard decision because it's known that once you take a working dog off the road, his health can...
quickly decline. When he started getting better, we were hopeful that he would have a few more years of enjoying love and attention from his family. He had also developed a special bond with our one-year-old daughter.

To repress a little, when we brought our first daughter home from the hospital, we had thought and planned for a long time how we were going to introduce Bo to her. I was nervous that he would feel slighted by the new being that would command our attention, but Kevin felt he would learn his place quickly. Since our oldest was seven when Bohdan joined our family, he had never met a newborn.

It was a day I will never forget. Kevin held the baby in his arms and leaned down to allow a sniff, which our yellow lab took right away and then walked away in disinterest. Bohdan however, thought this was his new treat and proceeded to open his mouth as though to grab her by the head to take her to his den.

I cried so hard. Eventually, he ended up being allowed back in the house after much debate. He learned to stay on his side of the room and the kids on the other. Our last baby seemed to have won his heart over and he would let her fall on him, touch him, even hand-feed him from her highchair. We watched him turn his dominance into submission to a little baby. My heart grew bigger for him.

The last few months were a series of ups and downs and uncertainties as to Bo’s future. Then we saw the signs that it was time to let him go. Kevin took a few days off work to spend time with his partner and capture the last few memories he could before Bo left us. As Thursday approached, tears came and went. We knew it was time, but were sad to say goodbye.

It was an emotional evening, but one that we hope to keep in our hearts always. As the vet came to our house, Bohdan put up one last protective fight by growling and barking, not allowing the vet in the house. It was the first bit of energy we had seen him expend all week, a last glimpse of the powerful being he had been. He lay on his bed and received the affection we were giving him. He knew it was time. With his head in his partner’s hands, he took one last breath and let go.

After he passed, we put his body in the very spot he sat during nights as a trooper—the canine hold of his police cruiser—to take him on one last night-shift ride. We were met by two sergeants who had overseen Kevin and Bohdan’s shifts over the last seven years. They came to follow him on his final ride to White Rose Pet Crematory. We drove down to the barracks to take one last loop around the building and what we saw was amazing—a dozen cruisers, with their blue lights on, lining both sides of the driveway into the parking lot with troopers standing at the fronts of their cars. As we drove in carrying Bohdan’s body, the troopers simultaneously lifted their hands in salutes to honor their fallen friend.

Witnessing such camaraderie was breathtaking and overwhelming all at the same time. On Bodhan’s final loop around the building, the troopers stayed in formation, saluting. As we exited onto the road to continue our journey, the troopers followed in line to escort Bohdan on his ride to White Rose. In the rearview mirror, the cruisers’ headlights could be seen in single-line formation, accompanying their fellow trooper on his final journey.

As we turned off the highway, we noticed a local police officer stopping traffic long enough to allow the formation of VSP cruisers to stay together. As I saw out of the corner of my eye, he too saluted Bohdan as a final gesture of respect for a fallen officer. When we entered the White Rose grounds, we knew we had to say our final goodbye. As Kevin and our oldest son carried Bohdan’s body into the building, a dozen troopers saluting Bohdan flanked the entrance as he completed his journey.

That tribute was beautiful. It’s so easy to say that Bohdan was just a dog, but this show of respect and honor told me different. These men saw Bohdan as a fellow trooper, as a member of the team, as part of their family too. That gesture of gratitude for the sacrifice and commitment Bohdan made to the VSP was one of the most heartfelt acknowledgements I’ve been witness to.

Words don’t do justice to the appreciation we have for all the kind words, acknowledgements, and condolences on the passing of our pup and Kevin’s partner. Thank you for your kindness. He will be missed and never forgotten. He contributed to an incredible program within the state of Vermont and left a legacy. He also left an imprint in his partner’s heart that will never be replaced.

K9 Tyko
Greenfield Police Department—2006-2013
Patricia West, Handler

K9 Tyko was imported from the Czech Republic and began training at one and a half years old. She was certified as a patrol dog/narcotics dog through the Massachusetts State Police K9 Academy under Instructor Sergeant Molet. Two days out of the K9 Narcotic section of the academy Tyko was searching a residence for a subject who violated his parole. After finishing the search she snapped her head around and made a “drug indication” on a kitchen drawer. A search warrant was written and trafficking amounts of crack cocaine were located in this drawer.

Tyko worked with the Franklin Hampshire Narcotics Unit to locate cocaine, heroin, and marijuana. K9 Tyko additionally had many successful tracks leading to the arrest and conviction for the crimes of breaking and entering and domestic assault and battery where a man doused a woman in accelerant and tried to light her on fire.

While on patrol, K9 Tyko and her handler chased a man who was a fugitive from justice in another state. It turned into a foot chase, then K9 Tyko apprehended this suspect as he entered a cellar. Tyko was also deployed to the scene of a robbery which was committed in New Hampshire. This robbery ended with a car chase and shoot out between police and suspect.

Tyko apprehended people in several breaking and entries. The day before she retired, Tyko apprehended a suspect who had broken into a local business at 3 a.m. She was sent into the building and apprehended this suspect inside. K9 Tyko was loved by officers and feared by criminals. She will be a sorely missed “patrol officer” of the Greenfield Police Department. This department would like to thank White Rose for giving her the respect she deserved and the support we were given.

Please see additional tributes on the following pages.
K9 Blue served the Worcester County Sheriff's Office K9 Unit for eight years. During his years of service he covered the sixty cities and towns of central Massachusetts. He was deployed for several other counties throughout his career. K9 Blue was donated to the sheriff's office at the age of six months. He received his training and certifications through the National Police Bloodhound Association, along with the Norther Hounds Men. K9 Blue was retired at the end of 2012, but continued his career with the Sutton Police Department.

Blue enjoyed his home where he lived with his handler Shawn, and Shawn's wife Sue. He is survived by his K9 partners Teagan, Conner, Lucky and Ben, with whom he loved to play, although he would always let them know he was the boss. He was predeceased by his friends K9 Duke, K9 Hope, K9 Maggie, K9 Adam, K9 Molly, Jake and Ben.

During his career, K9 Blue had many finds and convictions. During one search Shawn and Blue were called to locate a suspect after a car chase by a local law enforcement agency. The suspect was known to carry a firearm and had several past charges of assault with a dangerous weapon. The track started at 2:00 A.M.. Shawn and Blue had two officers for backup. The track continued into the neighboring state. That night the moon was full and flashlights weren’t necessary. K9 Blue turned onto a set of power lines and continued up a dirt road. As they came to the top of a hill, Blue stopped trailing. He would not continue over the top of the hill. At that point, Shawn stopped the trail due to the lack of cover and the bright moonlight. He thanks God for Blue and his ability to sense danger that saved the two backup officers from getting into a fire fight.

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K9 Adam was born on March 25, 2001, in Dexter Missouri. He was placed by the Penny Harris Foundation in Connecticut and fostered by the Vannah family in Lee, Massachusetts. He began working at the Worcester County Sheriff's Office in the fall of 2001 at the age of six months. He partnered with Deputies Tom Welch and Peter Campo for 11½ years. Adam’s sister Kimmy was also in law enforcement. She went to work for a police department in Michigan. Adam had many convictions in the criminal cases he worked, contributing to numerous investigations and assisted police agencies all across Massachusetts during his tenure.

Extremely good natured, Adam watched his human family grow and enjoyed the company of Mom DD, Adir, and girls and the two boys who comprised his household, as well as his high strung kennel mate Molly and his friend Tito. He enjoyed his human Worcester County K9 Unit friends, Northeast Bloodhound Training Group, The National Police Bloodhound Association family (including the folks from Greensburg, Pennsylvania Fire Department K9, with whom he enjoyed Interacting and training). Able to work with many canines in close proximity, Adam was a well rounded and well liked working dog. He enjoyed public safety demonstrations, where he mingled with children and adults. As a trailing dog he worked slowly and deliberately, preferring the aged trails and enjoying the finds.

He worked a variety of criminal and missing persons cases over the years to include: attempted arson, stolen vehicles, larcenies and burglaries, vandalism, and bank robberies. He worked a day-old missing person case in a suburb of Boston trailing eight miles through the heaviest traffic and road contamination, giving us the direction of travel—a great accomplishment for any canine. He was excited about his training events, training all over the east coast in states from Maine to the Carolinas, and was certified in man-trailing by the National Police Bloodhound Association.

He gave his heart and soul to trailing and would work in any condition. Camp recalls two trails where they pushed their work to the limit. The first was an early morning call for an emotionally disturbed person who had walked out of the hospital after being sedated. They trailed from the point last seen over railroad tracks. Working in the darkness they unknowingly traveled over an elevated railroad track, the lead became very heavy and when the lights were tuned on, Adam was found suspended by his harness 30’ over the rail bed below. He calmly waited while he was pulled up and then finished working the trail to find the person in a building. The second was a missing person Adam trailed to the Charles River and into the water, working over and under logs and over trees. The air temp was in the 40s so the water was very chilly. Adam began swimming the trail and was caught in the river current. They were able to get back to shore and the victim was later located several yards away in the direction Adam was heading.

To My K9 Partner
You always stood by my side. You kept me safe when things got rough.
You never complained.
When the trail was long and hard, you seemed to make it through.
When people were in need of your great nose, you always seemed to get it done.
God blesses us with great things.
You, my friend, are a blessing.
Thank you for your years of dedication and friendship.

K9 Blue
2002-2012
Worcester County Sheriff’s Department—2004-2012
August 30, 2002-December 4, 2013
Shawn Conley, Handler

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K9 Adam
2001-2013
Worcester County Sheriff’s Office—2001-2013
March 25, 2001-October 28, 2013
Deputies Tom Welch & Peter Campo, Handlers

K9 Adam was born on March 25, 2001, in Dexter Missouri. He was placed by the Penny Harris Foundation in Connecticut and fostered by the Vannah family in Lee, Massachusetts. He began working at the Worcester County Sheriff’s Office in the fall of 2001 at the age of six months. He partnered with Deputies Tom Welch and Peter Campo for 11½ years. Adam’s sister Kimmy was also in law enforcement. She went to work for a police department in Michigan. Adam had many convictions in the criminal cases he worked, contributing to numerous investigations and assisted police agencies all across Massachusetts during his tenure.

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Please see additional tributes on the following pages.
K9 Molly Anne
2003-2013
Templeton Developmental Center
Town of Phillipston Police Department
Nov. 16, 2003-May 4, 2013
Chief Raymond O. Jackson, Handler

Molly worked full time for the campus police department at the Templeton Developmental Center. She was handled by and lived with Chief Raymond O. Jackson for more than nine years. She was also an appointed canine for the Town of Phillipston police department. She was a member of the National Police Bloodhound Association and attended training seminars in western New York, South Carolina, Wellfleet, Massachusetts and the North Quabbin area where she and her fellow K9s help host the Northeast Houndsmen seminars.

Molly also helped the Molly Bish Center for Children by demonstrating her man-trailing skills at annual functions.

Molly had more than 211 callouts in her career, ranging from lost individuals to criminal trails. One of her trails was a female who ran from a stolen motor vehicle crash. She was found bleeding profusely and unresponsive. With quick emergency care the young lady survived the ordeal. Molly was awarded the 2006 National Police Bloodhound Association Lifesaving Award for this action. She also helped the Town of Orange police department investigate a rash of motor vehicle breakins. Her trails led to reasonable suspicion of subjects. That helped obtain search warrants and the subjects were brought to justice. Most recently she worked on the “pillow case bandit” case, which involved area towns in the North Quabbin community, and also helped the Hardwick police recover stolen firearms two days after a break and entry.

She will be missed by all in the K9 man-trailing world, and especially by her beagle friend, Cooper, with whom she shared her life, and by her family.

K9 Naja
Brattleboro Police Department—2005-2011
August 17, 2005-June 14, 2013
Sergeant Penny Witherbee, Handler 2005-2009
Officer Jason O’Brien, Handler 2009-2011

K9 Naja was born in France and traveled to South Carolina where she trained in narcotics detection and tracking with Sergeant Witherbee. Naja was assigned to patrol with Sergeant Witherbee from 2005 until 2009. In 2008 during a large midnight search warrant, K9 Naja met K9 Yako who worked for the Windham County Sheriff's Department. In between searching rooms for narcotics, Naja and Yako began playing together. This was strange as Naja was not normally friendly to other dogs.

Several years later, after Yako and his handler came to work for the Brattleboro Police Department, Sergeant Witherbee asked Officer O’Brien if he’d like to take over as her handler because she had more years of service left in her and Yako was nearing his retirement years.

When working with Sgt. Witherbee and Officer O’Brien during foot patrols and bar checks downtown, Naja’s presence and bark were a constant resource to the Officers on duty. K9 Naja assisted on many successful search warrants and during one such search K9 Naja located a sizeable amount of crack cocaine stuffed inside a sneaker concealed in the trunk of a car. K9 Naja tracked suspects in the surrounding communities of Bellows Falls and Hinsdale, N.H.

On one occasion K9 Naja located the suspect of a nighttime assault in Hinsdale, N.H., even though the suspect entered a body of water and tried to conceal himself among some bushes. On another night K9 Naja assisted after a vehicle pursuit which ended when the operator fled on foot. Naja tracked the suspect through very steep terrain and located him in a swampy wooded area near downtown Brattleboro.

Naja enjoyed the New England seasons playing in the snow in the winter and soaking up all the sun she could get in the summer. Naja’s true love was her K9 companion Yako. Naja was predeceased by K9 Yako in 2012. Whether destroying the couch with her buddies Yako and Monty, or roughhousing in her pool Naja will be greatly missed.

Please see additional tributes on the following pages.
K9 Yako
2000-2012
Windham County Sheriff’s Department—2005-2008
Brattleboro Police Department—2008-2009
July 2, 2001 to October 29, 2012
Inspector Jason O’Brien, Handler

K9 Yako and Jason would never have met without the support and assistance of friends, co-workers and family. In 2005, plans were set in place for the first K9 Unit at the Windham County Sheriff’s Department. K9 Yako was already four years old when Jason found him at Canine Specialty Services in Monkonk, Vt.

Jason and Yako attended the 25th Basic K9 Patrol Class in 2005, a residential program held at the Vermont Police Academy, for 16 weeks and later in 2007 certified in Narcotics Detection. Yako began patrolling 13 towns in Windham County with Jason where he assisted on traffic stops and calls for service. Requests began coming in for K9 demonstrations. Yako and Jason visited several area high schools, elementary schools, nursing homes, libraries, and even a nursery, showcasing Yako’s abilities to bite and hold suspects, man-track, and detect narcotics. Yako was best known for his frequent visits to the Thompson House Nursing Home in Brattleboro. Yako was always rewarded with his Wilson tennis ball.

On patrol Yako tracked for armed robbers, suspects who fled from vehicle pursuits and on one occasion searched in the dead of night for two brothers who had stolen a police officer’s gun in New Hampshire. During another patrol Jason and Yako encountered a speeding vehicle, and before Jason could catch up to it, the vehicle crashed. Unknown to Jason at the time, the occupants were partially intoxicated and armed with handguns, several of which are believed to have been stolen. While Jason interacted with the driver and conducted an interview, it was later revealed that the driver was considering shooting Jason. Only when the driver learned of Yako’s presence did the driver not resort to violence. Jason believes on this day that Yako most certainly saved his life.

Yako and Jason were often called upon to assist area law enforcement. On one occasion they assisted U.S. marshals with fugitive recoveries. Another time they assisted officers in southwest Vermont in the hunt for a serial bank robber. During lockdowns at high schools in Brandon, and in Bellows Falls, Yako searched for suspects believed to be inside after a reported arson and after an armed man was believed to have entered.

Yako and Jason competed in the Green Mountain Iron Dog Competition in 2005, 2006, and 2008. Yako survived cancer in 2007 and returned to duty. In 2007 Jason and Katie were married and Yako was chosen to be the ring bearer. Yako walked down the aisle proudly wearing a white satin bow tie with two wedding rings attached. After retiring in 2009 Yako spent the last three years of his life with his K9 friends Naja and Monty, swimming and taking evening walks. In 2012 Yako began to show signs of K9 dementia. It is believed Yako suffered from heart failure and passed away peacefully with assistance from the staff at the Deerfield, Massachusetts, Emergency Veterinary Hospital. Yako’s love of life and his giant smile will remain in the minds of those who loved him forever.

K9 Excalibur
2003-2013
Massachusetts State Police—2005-2010
Sgt. Neil H. Raymond, Handler

Excalibur was born “Rex,” but was renamed upon acceptance into the state police canine program. After 14 weeks of patrol/utility training, Excalibur was assigned to patrol with Sergeant Raymond. He would later return for additional specialty training in cadaver scent detection. Redeployed after the training, Excalibur contributed significantly to state police work in several homicide cases by greatly aiding in locating victims, most notably a woman who had been buried in heavy brush in Spencer and another whose body had been secreted in a suitcase and discarded off I-395 in the town of Oxford. Excalibur was an exemplary member of the force and will be dearly missed.

K9 Dago
2000-2012
Worcester County Sheriff’s Department—2005-2010
January 03, 2000 to July 25, 2012
Deputy Thomas Welch, Handler

Dago was part of the Zero Tolerance Program. His service brought drug awareness and kept drugs out of many high schools across the state. He also worked with the U.S. Postal Inspector searching packages at facilities throughout Worcester County.

Dago’s biggest passion was tracking people; he constantly had his nose to the ground searching for a scent. When Dago tracked, he would pull hard on the lead, always excited about the find at the end. He had a lot of success at finding people throughout his career. He completed many searches and demonstrations throughout his career, touching many lives along the way.

When he wasn’t at work, Dago loved being home with the rest of his family, Nina, Tommy and Steffan. He was a great protector and guardian of the house. He loved getting cookies and being rubbed on his back. He would stretch out his back legs and couldn’t be happier. Dago also leaves behind Fiona, Finnegan and Kirby. He will be greatly missed!
Hope worked for the Worcester County Sheriff’s Department side-by-side with her handler Dep. Shawn Conley for nine years before retiring in the spring of 2010. She was also a member of The National Police Bloodhound Association.

Hope was outstanding with children and touched many lives when she and Dep. Conley taught children what to do if they were to become lost, and how Hope would find them. During the demonstrations Hope received much media attention, resulting in the nickname of Liz (as in Liz Taylor). Even when out of state, she was featured in the local paper.

Hope was a phenomenal tracking hound with many findings. Hope and Dep. Conley were presented a lifesaving award by the governor at the Massachusetts State House in 2008 for their outstanding find of a suicidal individual.

In 2007 Hope and her handler were the first bloodhound team to compete in the Green Mountain Iron Dog competition in Colchester, Vermont. They entered again in 2008 and 2009, coming home with a medal each time, and Hope’s picture was in the Iron Dog 2008 calendar.

Hope enjoyed her home where she lived with her handler and his wife Sue. She is survived by K-9 Partners Blue and Teagan who will take up Hope’s position at the Worcester County Sheriff’s Office. She loved to play with Connor and Lucky, stealing their treats and letting them know who was boss. She was predeceased by her friends K-9 Duke, George, Casey, K-9 Maggie, Jake, Ben and Sonic.

In the summer Hope enjoyed swimming in the lake and lying on Hope’s rock. In the winter she enjoyed lying by the woodstove and sitting by her master, drooling for his last bite of oatmeal. Every morning she would go out to the kennel and howl. It became the music of the neighborhood. Hope lived a very happy and spoiled life. She was truly loved by all. Hope has been laid to rest due to K-9 dementia.

Rest in peace our K-9 angel, you will always be our girl.

K-9 Scooby
1999-2010
Vermont State Police, Brattleboro—2000-2008
Sgt. Christopher Buckley, Handler

K-9 Scooby came to the Buckley Family in July, 2000, from the Northeast German Shepherd Dog Rescue in Rindge, NH. He was picked to join the ranks of the Vermont State Police K-9 program and served with the Vermont State Police K-9 Corps from August 1, 2000 to December 7, 2008.

All who encountered K-9 Scooby knew that he had a unique personality to match his celebrity name. In August 2000, he began his training at the Vermont Police Academy in Pittsford. His 16 weeks of patrol training, earned him his certification and he soon earned certification in Narcotic Detection. He also earned NESPAC certification in Patrol and Drug Detection.

During K-9 Scooby’s career, he made 26 tracking finds and more than 100 drug searches. He was deployed more than 300 times in all. One of K-9 Scooby’s most notable tracks involved a subject who had violently assaulted his girlfriend. Just prior to the arrival of the State Police, the subject fled into a wooded area, then into a swamp. K-9 Scooby located the subject hiding in the swamp and stood on his chest until he surrendered without incident. K-9 Scooby made many drug finds during his career. His most notable was 110 pounds of marijuana hidden in a false wall inside the trailer of a tractor-trailer truck. He maintained a 98% proficiency rating for his work. He also assisted in the recovery of more than $200,000 in U.S. currency.

K-9 Scooby was well known for his visits to elementary and pre-schools throughout Chittenden and Windham Counties. Children were drawn to his unique personality and his ability to make them laugh. He will forever be remembered for his unvarying reward when his job was done. He always received “a cheeseburger, no pickles, no onions.”

K-9 Scooby was awarded the “2006 Tracking Team of the Year” by the Vermont Police Canine Association. He also participated in several “Iron Dog” Competitions and placed first in the 2001 competition.

Webster
1995-2008
Massachusetts State Police — 1996-2005
Sgt. Neil H. Raymond, Handler

Bred and raised by the Fidelco Seeing Eye Foundation of Bloomfield, Connecticut, Webster was being developed as a seeing eye dog. Given his rambunctious spirit he was unable to complete his training and deployment to a blind handler.

He was tested and accepted in the Massachusetts State Police K-9 Program in September of 1996 where he was assigned to Sgt. Neil H. Raymond. After 14 weeks of patrolutility training, “Web” was deployed to the field. He would return in 1997 to complete a 6 week narcotics detection training program.

Web served the State Police and Sgt. Raymond faithfully from 1996-2005, when he had to be retired due to medical reasons. During his tenure he saved the lives of two persons (a suicidal subject bent on his own demise and an 80-year-old Alzheimer victim lost overnight in a swamp). In two additional cases, he successfully tracked the rapist of a teenage girl to his doorstep and located a critical piece of evidence in a grievous assault on a woman, resulting in the successful prosecutions of both perpetrators. Web will probably be remembered most for his ability to educate the general public at the numerous public relations demonstrations he participated in.

Please see additional tributes on the following pages.
Ollie was born in the Czech Republic in the spring of 2000 and purchased by the State Police from Orchard Knoll Kennels in North Carolina. Ollie was first assigned to Trooper Chet Warwaka. The team was trained and certified as a Patrol/Cadaver Team. Then Chet was promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred from the Canine Unit. Trooper Gary Hebert was assigned K-9 Ollie, who was a tough dog and other handlers warned Hebert of his personality. But Ollie and Hebert bonded quickly. Ollie became eager to please his handler. The new team was certified as a Patrol/Cadaver Recovery Team in the Fall of 2003.

The two went right to work assisting detectives in Marlboro to locate human remains of a suspected female homicide victim. While searching the woods that day, Ollie located a human skull. Detectives were puzzled because they already had the woman’s skull. In searching for the rest of the second victim it was soon apparent that the area was the dumping grounds of a murderer.

Ollie had many other successful calls, from locating suspects wanted for breaking into an auto dealer in Holyoke to locating the area for divers to find a priest who had drowned when he fell out of his canoe on a pond in Paxton, MA.

Ollie was severely injured when he was struck by a vehicle in December of 2004. After three operations and aqua therapy, Ollie was well enough to return to work as a cadaver scent detection canine. Hebert was assigned another K9 for patrol work.

Ollie’s most recognized find was a missing man in Chicopee, MA. Ollie had a noticeable attraction to a cellar door. He began sniffing and then scratched so aggressively at the door that it opened and he went in. While trying to retrieve him, Hebert observed Ollie scratching at a carpet on the floor and barking. Ollie’s proven responses to cadaver scents led to an affidavit and a search warrant. Ollie returned to the cellar and repeated his earlier behavior. He also bit at a mattress in the corner of the cellar blocked in with other items. Ollie used his whole body to pull at the mattress and it finally tipped over where a very large blood stain was located. The investigation revealed that the missing man was murdered and burned under the carpet that Ollie was indicating. A suspect was arrested and is currently in prison for the murder.

Hebert has very fond memories of Ollie, considering him a great partner and a friend. Says Hebert, “I loved him very much and he will never be forgotten.”

A TRAILER’S PRAYER

Oh Lord I pray that you will hear and grant this simple plea, that each time I run a trail you walk along with me. Give my dog an unerring nose on the trail that he must follow, over desert sand and marshy bogs and up the mountain hollow. Help us find the one we seek, be he lost or be he hiding, for on our failure or success a life just may be riding. Then when I’m tired and wet and cold and I find it hard to smile, please God, I pray give me the strength to walk that one last mile.

Beau
1992-2003
Vernon Police Department
Dick McNary, K-9 Handler (Retired)
Vernon, Vermont
Unknown - May 4, 2003

On May 4, 2003, Beau was allowed to pass peacefully on to her last track. Beau had been proud to serve the people of Vernon, Vermont, and the surrounding communities with police search and rescue, narcotics detection, and tracking for the past 9 years. She had worked in Vernon, Brattleboro, Guilford, Dummerston, Putney, Northfield, Hinsdale, Chesterfield and Keene.

Her work record shows she was involved in 19 searches with 11 finds, several criminal tracks with five arrests credited to her, and many drug detection calls outs and drug busts in the area. She received several letters of commendation from area police departments for the services she provided.

There are two sayings created by a Brattleboro police officer that really were quite fitting of Beau’s abilities, “Beau’s nose knows,” and “You can run from Beau but you sure can’t hide.” She loved people and loved to go to work. As soon as the phone rang in the middle of the night, she’d be right by Dick’s side. If he started to dress, she would be waiting impatiently at the door ready to go.

Beau touched the hearts and lives of many. She served us well and with pride. We will all miss her, remember her friendliness and the way she loved people. Stay safe old girl. We love and miss you. God’s speed.

Please see additional tributes on the following pages.
K9 Duke
1994-2007
Worcester County Sheriff’s Office
Worcester, MA
Deputy Shawn Conley, Handler
May 6, 1999 - May 5, 2008

K9 Duke served on the Worcester County Sheriff’s Office K9 Unit from 1999 to 2006. He had a distinguished career in the sheriff’s office and was a member of the National Police Bloodhound Association.

K9 Duke solved many cases throughout the Worcester County area. His first case was motor vehicle accident where the subject had run off into a wooded area. The subject was badly hurt. K9 Duke was scented off of a tooth found in the steering wheel of the vehicle. The subject was located and taken to the hospital. K9 Duke also solved a flag burning case. A group of youths were burning flags in a residential area. K9 Duke tracked the youths down and solved the case. K9 Duke was retired in 2006 due to a leg injury. He lived out the rest of his life with his handler, Deputy Sheriff Shawn R. Conley, and Conley’s wife Susan. K9 Duke is survived by Hope, Teagen and Blue who have assumed Duke’s duties at the Worcester County Sheriff’s office.

K-9 Jet
1999-2007
Orange (MA) Police Department
Clay Rushford, Handler
November 4, 1999 - June 2, 2007

K-9 Jet came to the Orange, Massachusetts, Police Department from Germany and worked four and a half years before his death. He had earned an endurance title, a companion title and a Schutzhund I title. He was a certified patrol dog and had completed training in Homeland Security matters. Jet attended DARE graduations, was involved with many public demonstrations, and every year helped the Pioneer Women’s Club promote the Santa Fund.

K-9 Jet completed over 70 tracks and had 20 arrests to his credit. In 2003 he tracked for a mile and a half a suspect who had vandalized Mahar High School five hours earlier. That same year he located, hiding in the school, two suspects who were involved in vandalism. In 2004 he tracked four teens involved in vandalizing the downtown area. In 2005 he was assigned to provide security for entertainer Bill Cosby, and in the summer of 2006, during a crime spree which involved breaking into vehicles, he did numerous tracks, recovering evidence and giving investigators an area to concentrate on. All those responsible were identified and charged.

K-9 Jet, born Gero vom Sassenbergland on 11/4/1999, died on 6/2/07 at the age of seven and a half years from a medical condition known as insulinoma. Jet leaves his partner Officer Clay Rushford and Clay’s wife Melissa. He will be sadly missed by those he worked with and visited.

Duke
1994-2007
Greenfield (MA) Police Department
Officer Timothy Currier, Handler
December 26, 1994 - January 9, 2007

“K-9 Officer Duke” served on the Greenfield Police Department K-9 Unit from December of 1995 through 2003. He was a faithful partner and best friend to his handler, Officer Timothy Currier. Duke was born in April of 1994 in Gill, MA and, sadly, passed in January 2007. He is greatly missed by so many of his family and friends. He will remain in the hearts of all who knew him for years to come.
Maggie Mae
1994-2007
Mantrailing Bloodhound
Templeton (MA) Developmental Center
October 6, 1994 - January 21, 2007

Maggie Mae worked full time at the Templeton Developmental Center for the Campus Police Department in Templeton, MA. She was born at Camp Verde, AZ. Her working-dog parents were the legendary Righteous Boone (Yavapai Sheriff’s Department) and Sniffing Daisy (Department of the Interior at Grand Canyon National Park). Maggie was one of 18 litter mates. She also worked when needed for other agencies, mostly in the North Quabbin area, helping to track down criminals and find lost people.

During her first criminal tail Maggie relied on a five-hour-old trail, yet she brought to justice a subject who was poaching wild turkeys. She was seven months old. In July of 1996 she found a woman who had been missing for more than 15 hours in Phillipston, MA. Maggie trailed the scent during a severe thunderstorm. The woman was distraught, but okay.

In Athol, MA Maggie helped lead police to a house where a subject ran after her and stabbed a carnival worker who was sitting in his vehicle at the Lord Pond Plaza.

Maggie was known throughout the area for helping to teach school children the “Hug a Tree” program—what to do if they ever become lost in the woods, and how to help prevent such circumstances.

In August of 2002 Maggie was hit by a truck at the Templeton Developmental Center. Her front leg and both back feet were broken but, with help from the community, Maggie recovered and eight months later she responded to the town of Orange, MA where she helped the Orange police investigate a breaking and entering into a camp at Lake Mattawa. Maggie followed the scent from a 12-pack beer container and tracked one and a half miles to find the three subjects. They were brought to court and confessed to the crime. According to one of the confessed perpetrators, the trail Maggie followed was more than four weeks old.

In her later years Maggie went to work every day and enjoyed visiting the individuals who reside at the Developmental Center.

Maggie was predeceased by her pals Ajo, Bobbi, Goliath and Sasquatch (all bloodhound mantrailers) who together worked many successful searches and had numerous cases that were admissible for search warrants. She is survived by Molly Anne, who has assumed Maggie’s duties at the Templeton Developmental Center. She lived with her partner of 13 years, Campus Police Chief Ray Jackson, and Amy Jackson of Athol, MA. Maggie was a member of the National Police Association.

Donations can be made in her memory to the “Bobbi Project” (a program to help police K-9’s and bloodhounds with medical bills), c/o Nancy Thompson, 136 Cove Road, Lunenburg, MA. 01462.

K-9 Champ
1980-1988
Orange (MA) Police Department
Served March, 1982 to December, 1986
Clay Rushford, Handler

Champ died in 1988 and was buried on the lot occupied by the Orange Police Department. When Clay Rushford, Champ’s handler, heard of a possible police department expansion that would disturb the spot where Champ is buried, he felt compelled to exhume Champ’s body and find a means to bring him home for final resting. Champ came to White Rose for cremation on June 19, 2006.

Champ began his career after he was adopted from the local pound and impressed his new owner with his intelligence and temperament. Rushford said Champ was a quick learner and just perfect for the job. Champ participated in more than 20 arrests, most involving felonies. In March of 1983 he helped capture three suspects after chasing them through four miles of woods, thicket and waist-deep water. He also saved the life of an elderly man who was lost for approximately five hours, and he helped to apprehend an armed burglar who had attacked a resident with a knife. Champ retired after four years of service with the Orange Police Department. He was a faithful companion to coworkers on the force, a friend to many residents, and a great partner to Rushford.