

August 25, 2004 ~ April 16, 2013

HUDSON

AKA HUDDY

Hudson was a kind and gentle Wire Fox boy with a huggable personality who arrived at WFTRM in August of 2012. From the minute he walked through the door, he captured Cheryl's heart. He was a quiet, well mannered fellow who just wanted to fit in and be loved. Hudson was eight years old and his owner decided eight is enough. After getting a new dog that did not like Hudson, it was out with the old and in with the new. Hudson was such a wonderful Wire and loyal friend to one and all, friendly with most other dogs and had fun romping with the other Rescue Wires and being part of the pack and a home. Hudson was a Heart dog and a once in a lifetime Wire Fox Terrier.



On December 19, 2012 Hudson was taken to the vet as several of his lymph nodes were greatly enlarged. Fluid was aspirated from two of the nodes and sent off to pathology. Sadly the diagnosis came back as Lymphoma Large Cell in both of the nodes. He is otherwise healthy and so happy and this diagnosis is very devastating. There was a good feeling and high hopes that perhaps this was caught early so the decision was made to give him a chance at winning this battle. He has been told he is no longer a foster dog & has a home at WFTRM Iowa along with Toodles, Snookie & Carson. A home that loves him dearly, spoils him and supplies him with his favorite treats. Cheryl was by his side through his weekly treatments, daily medications and complications. A very emotional and heartbreaking undertaking and journey.



Hudson had an appointment with the oncology department at Iowa State on January 3, 2013. After Radiographs and bloodwork, he was diagnosed with Stage 3 Lymphoma. Dr. Fox sent out further tests to substage and have a better idea for long term prognosis. The Flow Cytometry study from Colorado State revealed that the majority of cells in Hudson's lymph nodes aspirate expressed CD21 and CD22. This finding is diagnostic for B cell lymphoma. The cells are medium sized and express high levels of class ii MHC. These cases of Lymphoma have a good overall prognosis with a good chance of remission. It was decided to go with the Wisconsin-Madison Protocol. Hudson would receive chemotherapy once a week for 6 months. His first injection was a drug called L-Asparaginase and the next 3 weeks will be IV chemotherapy. The chemo will compromise his immune system - caution will taken to not expose him to any kind of sickness. Hudson will need monitoring and gloves used for his bodily functions as dogs and people can get a dose of chemo through his fluids. This will be a huge commitment of time, stamina and emotions and one done with truly love for an innocent rescue animal.



Hudson's visit to the Oncology Dept. at Iowa State on March 19th was not what was hoped or filled with promise. His CBC was rechecked and showed an elevated neutrophil count and a mildly decreased lymphocyte count. Due to Hudson's poor response to Vincristine in the past he was given a dose of Lomustine. Sadly, his lymph nodes are enormous to where he can hardly swallow. He has aged dramatically in a short period, losing the beard on his snout. He follows and looks for direction, comfort and giving a sense of – please help me. ISU feels his lymphoma is stable at this time and will continue the Prednisone and the Procarbazine. The following week Hudson is to get a CBC and to check his lymph node measurement. When he returns to ISU they will devise a new chemotherapy plan with the goal to keep him comfortable and the lymphoma as stable as possible. Since the increase of the Prednisone, there has been a slight decrease in the nodes size which is a glimmer of hope.





April 4, 2013 – Hudson had an emergency visit at ISU. The lymph nodes all over Hudson's body have greatly enlarged. He wants to eat but cannot unless he is handfed a bite at a time. He feels lethargic and shaky. Based on his partial response to the Vincristine, ISU administered a dose of Vinblastine. It was decided to begin a new protocol next week – DMAC

April 11, 2013 – Hudson had his last and final visit to Iowa State. His lymph nodes were all enlarged and was lethargic. The DMAC (dexamethasone, melphalan, actinomycin-D and Cytosine Arabinoside) was performed. It was a very long and emotional day from 8:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Hudson was shaking and wanted to go home. It ended up being a very long night as well and the following morning he lay on the bathroom floor on his side barely moving. Hudson had received a lot of chemo which causes the lymph nodes to dump toxins into the blood. The only way to deal with this is to dilute and flush with fluids so he was brought to Avenue of the Saints for IV fluids and electrolytes. When it was time for Hudson to return home, he looked so much better and was eating and drinking.



It has been an up and down rollercoaster with Hudson's Cancer Treatment and we put up a brave fight. There were such high hopes, prayers and support for him to achieve remission. His cancer was an aggressive form that once knocked down would only come back with a vengeance. Hudson's eyes looked so sad and empty and would not eat or drink and his spirit had diminished. He was taken to Avenue of the Saints again on April 15, 2013 for more IV fluids but they were not enough. On April 16, 2013 Hudson crossed the Rainbow Bridge and is free of his suffering. Huddy left knowing how deeply he was loved. He will be greatly missed.

