

Suffield Veterinary Hospital July 2011 Patient of the Month

Meet Tyler, a charming 12-year-old female miniature schnauzer jointly owned by the Sutula and Parker families of Suffield. Tyler is pictured here in a beautiful portrait by MotoPhoto of Enfield. Here is Tyler's story, from her own perspective (written by Darcey Parker):

*Hi, my name is Tyler. I am a little girl, (yes, with a boy's name), who lives for fun and games with a family who loves me very much. My name was chosen **before** I was chosen from a litter of 6 siblings, and so the story goes that because of my adorable smile and outgoing personality I became their first female dog EVER! How lucky is that?*

I've had some struggles with my health lately, but am feeling much better because of a collaboration between some of the best doctors in the world who look after me and keep me strong. Just 2 summers ago, my Mom noticed that my appetite had diminished drastically and that my gums were very pale in color.



Since my Mom can't drive, she asked my Aunt (aka my 2nd Mom) to take me to Dr. Ann Huntington. After many tests, biopsies, and blood transfusions it was determined that I had a type of idiopathic (unexplainable) anemia called "IMHA." Because my case was so complex, Dr. Huntington sent me to an internal medicine specialist, Dr. Claire Weigand up in South Deerfield, MA, who works out of VESH — a Veterinary Emergency & Specialty Hospital.

*What a brainiac! Even Dr. Huntington calls her the **guru** of internal medicine. How lucky am I again!?! Now, with medication and an occasional blood test, I am very active and feel great.*

My hobbies are chasing the duckies at the lake, boating, taking long walks and visiting with my girlfriends next door — Harley, a shepherd mix and Zoe, a black lab.

And, did I mention that I have a Dad (my Aunt's husband) who takes me with him everywhere on Saturday and Sunday mornings? We go to the hardware store, the dump, the general store and sometimes go and visit his friends who have stashes of

Milk-Bones! I must say...everybody loves me!

Most importantly, I am a companion and friend for my Mom, whom I love very much. She has had some big struggles of her own, suffering permanent disabilities from an auto accident when she was only 13 years old. She is now 57 and takes such great care of me that I plan on sticking around for a long time yet to keep her company. We play together, talk to each other and on occasion sleep together. She tells me 100 times a day that she loves me, so who wouldn't want to stick around for all the mushy stuff?

And finally, did I mention...that...I AM a lucky dog!?!

For having a family that never gave up, even against the longest of odds, we are pleased to name Tyler the Suffield Veterinary Hospital July 2011 Patient of the Month.

Suffield Veterinary Hospital

Dr. Ann Huntington ♦ Dr. Anita Sabellico ♦ Dr. Dawn Burke ♦ Dr. Jean Herrman ♦ Dr. Griffin O'Connor
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