

Suffield Veterinary Hospital May 2013 Patient of the Month

Meet Lady, an approximately 10 year old pit bull terrier owned by Joe Kokofsky of Enfield, CT. Lady entered Joe's life when he went to the MSPCA Shelter in Springfield looking for a pup and fell in love. They have been inseparable buddies ever since.

There is something missing in this charming portrait of Lady, taken by photographer Lori Radke of Enfield. Keen eyes will notice that she is missing a rear leg. Last fall Lady was brought to Suffield Veterinary Hospital for a soft swelling around a joint in the left hind leg which caused a limp. A biopsy confirmed cancer of a type that is very aggressive in the original site, but very slow to spread to other parts of the body. Despite having a specialist remove as much of the tumor as possible, within weeks it was coming back. After consulting with a veterinary oncologist, Mr. Kokofsky was faced with a heart-wrenching decision: amputation of the leg or living the rest of her life in intense pain.



Lady had the surgery and hasn't looked back once! She is pain-free and completely adjusted to losing her leg. In a note Lady must have dictated to Mr. Kokofsky, she writes: "I like going for long walks. My owner takes me for walks around Mystic Seaport, always stopping to get ice cream cones for each of us. I like playing Frisbee, my owner throwing and me catching. I like running and playing in the snow. I am very strong and I like pulling things. I also like going to the vets, especially Suffield!"

For being such a sweet example of her breed, and for showing us all that 3-legged dogs aren't actually handicapped, we are proud to name Lady the Suffield Veterinary Hospital May 2013 Patient of the Month.

Suffield Veterinary Hospital

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