

As most of you know, our black Labrador Retriever was diagnosed with a tumor during December 2008. He was given 3 months to live. As a family we agreed to not intervene in his condition but to let it take its natural course. We also agreed that once he was in any kind of pain, we'd have him put to sleep. Our prayer was that he merely pass in his sleep.

Early this morning our prayer was answered as he went in his sleep on the favorite pillow he slept on. He lived over a year longer than he was supposed to. We did have a chance to comfort him the night before. The only thing really uncomfortable was that our son Timothy found him first. Please keep us in your prayers for strength.

I thought this was fitting:

A Dog's Prayer

Treat me kindly, my beloved friend, for no heart in all the world is more grateful for kindness than the loving heart of mine.

Do not break my spirit with a stick, for though I lick your hand between blows, your patience and understanding will more quickly teach me the things you would have me learn.

Speak to me often, for your voice is the world's sweetest music, as you must know by the fierce wagging of my tail when your footsteps fall upon my waiting ear.

Please take me inside when it is cold and wet, for I ask no greater glory than the privilege of sitting at your feet beside the hearth.

Keep my pan filled with water, for I cannot tell you when I suffer thirst.

Feed me clean food that I may stay well, to romp and play and do your bidding, to walk by your side and stand ready, willing, and able to protect you with my life, should your life be in danger.

And my friend, when I am very old and no longer able to enjoy good health, hearing and sight, do not make heroic efforts to keep me going. I shall leave this Earth knowing with the last breath I draw, that my fate was always safest in your hands...

I will always be your BEST FRIEND.

Duncan was truly mans best friend and will be sorely missed by many.
<http://www.montney.com/relatives/lab/index.html>