



Final Refuge Dog  
Parker

# OLD DOG HAVEN

HELPING SENIOR DOGS LIVE THEIR  
GOLDEN YEARS IN LOVING HOMES

[www.olddoghaven.org](http://www.olddoghaven.org)

October 2023

## FINAL REFUGE DOG AUGUSTUS AND FOSTERS TINA AND RICK



Augustus's shelter shot



Augustus in his tux

Being old and often experiencing multiple health issues means that time is precious for ODH dogs. But the enormous love and care they receive from their ODH fosters often gives them a new lease on life, and sometimes they surprise everyone by enjoying many happy years before they pass away. **Augustus**, and on the following page, **Yoda**, are two such dogs.

**Augustus'** fosters, **Tina Nasbeth** and husband **Rick** started fostering for ODH in 2007 and have fostered an astonishing 100 dogs for ODH over the years. Tina writes, "Fostering senior dogs has taught me to appreciate each day I'm given with the dogs. We have had many short-timers, but we've been lucky to have a few who lived longer than expected like Augustus." When they fostered Augustus in 2017 he was called Sherman, but "we had an ODH pug named Sherman, so we called him Fermin." However, Tina and Rick quickly realized his appearance demanded a more theatrical name - a Dr. Seuss character quickly sprung to mind, and 'Mayor Augustus May Who of Whoville' was born, AKA 'Augustus'.

Tina writes that Augustus arrived "in really bad shape - his skin, eyes and ears were infected, his mouth was full of decayed teeth. We got to work right away. The list of

all of the medical help Augustus received over the years has been astounding. With the help of our amazing vet, eye specialists and dermatologists, Augustus did really well for a while. But when we've been lucky to have a dog long enough to see such a huge improvement, I always notice when they start to decline. You don't want to let them go back to where they once were." But the inevitable decline began for Augustus this year. "When you're doing all you can for a dog and they aren't getting better but getting worse and the issues keep adding up, well, then you have to make that decision. I'd so hoped to bring him to Summer Splash, but who would that have been for? Certainly not for him. We knew we could no longer ask him to fight any more battles. The Mayor was tired. But as he was leaving, he gave his forever foster mom kisses while he drifted off to a better place. He was gorgeous, unique, funny and gosh, he always made me smile - Rick and I were the lucky, oh so lucky ones to give him his final refuge home."



Augustus at home

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# FINAL REFUGE DOG YODA AND HIS FOSTER CHRIS



Photo: Julie Austin

**Chris Partman** began her ODH fostering journey back in Spring 2014, and by the time **Yoda** came into her life on Nov 4, 2016 from PAWS in Lynnwood, he was her 5th Final Refuge Dog. Chris writes, "PAWS had named him Yoda, and since he looked the part, I had to keep it. He was found in their parking lot when staff came into work with a mouth full of bad teeth, terrible skin and coat, plus he was not neutered. Yoda was a dog who knew his own mind and boundaries. He was the smallest dog in my household, but everyone else feared him. Fortunately for the world, Yoda had most of his teeth removed in 2016, because when he went to bite, there was no warning."

For the first few years he was with Chris, Yoda attended many ODH events as an ambassador for the organization. "He was so cute that he always got a lot of crowd attention. Once he was done with being admired, I'd just hold him in my arms or on my lap. Some of the many events he went to were:

Seattle Pride - several times - Petpalooza in Auburn, Hounds on the Hill in Puyallup, and too many times to count to Mud Bay Outreach, Reber Ranch Outreach."

At home Chris describes Yoda as being "the ultimate heat seeker. He would bask outside in the sun on nice days, find a sunbeam inside on cooler days, always had fleece blankets to burrow under and his ultimate favorite was his heated cat bed. He slept next to me every night, either under the covers against me or next to my pillow on his heated bed. Because when he was all curled up sleeping, he looked like a potato, his nickname was 'the Spud'."

"Yoda was treated for dry eye most of the time I had him and was a staff favorite at NW Animal Eye in Renton. At his home vet, Burien Vet Hospital, Yoda was a favorite of the entire staff. One person told me that each time I dropped him off, he spent most of the day being carried around by various staff members rather than staying in a kennel."

"He was diagnosed with chronic kidney disease in 2020, which was initially kept under control with a prescription diet. Finally, on Sept 2, 2023 he told me he was done fighting. At almost 20 years old, his little body could not do it anymore. He was sent off at my work, Blue Pearl in Renton after eating chocolate chip muffins and chocolate loaf as his final meal...Yoda was a beloved part of my family will always have a special place in my heart."

But the journey of being an ODH foster never ends for Chris, and just three days after Yoda passed, Chris fostered her 12th dog, **Moira**. She says this was, "in honor of Yoda... and because I love the mission of giving these adorable dogs a great final chapter full of love."

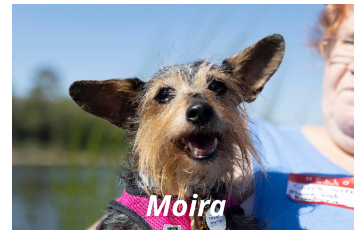


Photo: Julie Austin

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



As we welcome in Autumn, we find new delights and challenges for our pups and ourselves. Pups have the joy of walking in crisp leaves and making wonderful patterns on the floor as they track them into the house. Then when it's rainy and cold they are puzzled that we still expect them to 'go potty' outside when it is so much warmer and drier inside.

The humans involved with Old Dog Haven, have the joy of helping more dear senior dogs find loving, permanent homes and the challenge of meeting ever-increasing needs and expenses.

So, in response, the month of October is dedicated to our **Maranda Fund and Calendar Release celebration**. Our **Maranda Fund** was created to provide funding to senior dogs for major and costly veterinary procedures to help them have a better quality of life. This month, with every donation of \$40 or more to the **Maranda Fund**, the **2024 ODH Calendar** is available as our gift to you.

Our deepest thanks to all our fosters, volunteers, staff and donors who give so much to old dogs.

*DeeAnne Matz, Executive Director*



# ODH 2024 CALENDAR



Hot off the press, our wonderful **2024 Old Dog Haven Calendars** have arrived! They are now available with your donation of **\$40** or more online or by mail.

**Online:** <https://olddoghaven.org/donate-now/>

**Mail:** Old Dog Haven, P.O. Box 1409, Oak Harbor, WA 98277-1409.

Please make a check out to **Old Dog Haven** and be sure to write: **'Please send me a 2024 ODH Calendar'** on your check!

All contributions are, of course, tax deductible.

## ADOPT A SENIOR DOG!

ODH dogs are permanent fosters, but there are MANY more wonderful senior dogs in other organizations and situations waiting for their forever homes!

Here are just a few of those dogs that have been at shelters for some time. While they have specifics which might make placement more difficult, they certainly deserve loving adoptive homes. For more information, check out our website: [https://olddoghaven.org/dog\\_category/adoptable-dogs](https://olddoghaven.org/dog_category/adoptable-dogs)



## HOW YOU CAN HELP



I would love to help. Enclosed please find a donation in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to: **Old Dog Haven**. ODH is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Donations are tax-deductible.

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_ State\_\_\_\_\_ Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_ Email\_\_\_\_\_

Please mail your donation to: Old Dog Haven, P.O. Box 1409, Oak Harbor WA 98277

To donate online,  
please go to  
<https://olddoghaven.org>

**THANK YOU!**

# THANK YOU TO RECENT FUNDRAISERS



Shadow's Forever Friends did another amazing job raising funds for us through their Shadow 2023 Hikeathon.



kate quinn organics  
pure, natural luxury

Kate Quinn Organics held a bandana fundraiser with all proceeds going to ODH.



Animal-loving best friends Tyler (holding ODH dog, Wiley) her brother, Colten, and Sam, ran a lemonade stand this summer to raise money for ODH and NOAH, the animal shelter in Stanwood. They're planning to run another one next year, and they have every intention of beating this year's total, which was \$122 in two days!

*If you recently had a fundraiser for Old Dog Haven and it isn't listed here, we sincerely apologize. Feel free to send a picture to [office@olddoghaven.org](mailto:office@olddoghaven.org) for a future newsletter!*



P.O. Box 1409  
Oak Harbor, WA 98277

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## ODH DOG STATS

### YEAR TO DATE:

**141** dogs were taken into ODH Final Refuge homes

**131** dogs were adopted through ODH's placement services

**327** dogs are currently in ODH permanent care

## SAVE THE DATES

**GIVING  
TUESDAY**

**Giving Tuesday** is coming up soon - this year it falls on **November 28th**.

 **BONFIRE**

The **Bonfire** store opens for the Holiday season on **November 1st!** So pay a visit and treat your family and loved ones to a great selection of ODH items.

[www.bonfire.com/old-dog-haven-forever-home-fundraiser](http://www.bonfire.com/old-dog-haven-forever-home-fundraiser)