

Karyn Dawes

by Cindy Long, with help from Karyn herself

I am sitting at Karyn's desk, drinking a Sammy Adams Summer Ale and eating chips. Yep, I am at Karyn's and not drinking a Margarita! Just how weird is that? But I have to be honest ~ I don't know how to make one because she always made them for me!

There have been requests for me to say something about my dear friend. This is a very hard task for me because I am still feeling so lost. And, there are so many others writing memorials and articles, others who are much more eloquent than I. Then, aha! While looking for pictures I found an article she had written; what better way to pay tribute to one of the most extraordinary women I have ever met.... Quotes as she wrote, about herself! This was written a few years ago because Radar was 15 yrs old in March, but this is Karyn, by Karyn.

*As we all know, and luckily for us, Karyn became addicted to these crazy little pig dogs. She went on to produce multiple champions and multiple performance titled dogs. She always felt it was more than simply looks; our standard says "all purpose" and she believed it! When I first met her, she was more into Performance. She hated Conformation but if she wanted me to travel with her, she had to show my dogs cuz we all know how well I show!

"THE FIRST TIME I EVER LAID EYES ON A STAFFORD I WAS AT A FLYBALL TOURNAMENT IN LAS VEGAS NEARLY 13 (*15) YEARS AGO. I WAS RUNNING MY APBT, BULLDOZER, WITH A TEAM FROM SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. THE STAFFY WAS PART OF A VERY FAST TEAM FROM CANADA. THE LITTLE BLACK DOG LOOKED JUST LIKE A TINY PIT BULL! I WAS MESMERIZED! I SPENT A LOT OF TIME TALKING WITH THE TEAM MEMBERS ABOUT THEIR DOGS AND ABOUT THE BREED. THE CANADIANS WERE THE FIRST FLYBALL TEAM TO RUN STAFFORDS AND HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL WITH THEM FOR SEVERAL YEARS. BY THE END OF THE TOURNAMENT I KNEW I HAD TO ADD A STAFFORD TO MY FAMILY."

- KARYN



HONOR

THIS IS HONOR, OUT OF RADAR'S FIRST LITTER. KARYN AND I SPENT MONTHS GOING BACK AND FORTH OVER THE STUD DOG ~ IT HAD TO BE A VERY ACTIVE, HIGH DRIVE . . . WHEN THE LITTER WAS BORN I CAME DOWN TO SEE THEM AND KARYN SAID, PICK YOUR PUPPY! I WAS SO EXCITED. ALL THE WAY BACK UP NORTH I KEPT SAYING, "OH, WHAT AM I GONNA NAME HER, THIS IS SUCH AN HONOR" AND "I AM SO HONORED THAT KARYN WOULD GIVE ME A PUPPY, " OH WHAT AM I GONNA NAME HER, I CAN'T BELIEVE KARYN WOULD HONOR ME SO MUCH" SUDDENLY THE LIGHT WENT ON.....DUH "HONOR"

- CINDY



KARYN DAWES CONTINUED



RADAR CONFORMATION SWEEPS



CARTING



KAYRN SHOWING SHAUNSHAR'S
ENGLISH DANCER "CALI"



SHE GREW BORED EASILY. IF
THERE WAS SOMETHING NEW TO
TRY, SHE DID.

Radar was my connection to Karyn. I had gone to a Breed Specific Legislation meeting (1997) with an AmStaff friend. I had known Karyn from other dog shows; I was so glad to see her show up I made it a point to sit next to her. We all put our business cards on the table next to our notebooks so we could get to know each other. She looked at mine and said "Oh, you have American Staffordshire Terriers!".

I looked at hers and said " And it looks like you have Staffordshire Bull Terriers! "

I laughed when she said, "Hey, most folks don't even know what they are!"

She told me "This is Radar, my 8 week old puppy!"

We went outside at the coffee break, started talking and almost missed the rest of the meeting!

That was the beginning of our most wonderful friendship!

- Cindy



RADAR

"I selected a pretty little black bitch from a "herd" of pups at the breeder's home. I didn't do a lot of pedigree research because the thought of showing and breeding had never crossed my mind. I wanted a Flyball Stafford so I picked the pup that tested best for performance potential in the battery of puppy tests we put them through. Within a week she had her name, "Radar", because she was so black we needed radar to find her in the dark and the little clicking sounds she made while snuffling the ground served as her radar locator. By the time she was 3 months old I knew beyond a doubt that I didn't have a Flyball dog. She'd look at the ball with disdain as if to say, "you want that dirty old thing, you go get it".

Not to be deterred by her lack of ball drive, we started showing conformation and earned Radar's Championship shortly after her first birthday. Meanwhile she was training for agility and obedience competition. She was an extremely successful competitor, earning her CDX and U-CDX in obedience and agility titles in AKC, UKC, NADAC and USDAA, also qualifying for the USDAA National Finals. At 10 years of age she earned her UKC Weight Pull Championship, making her eligible to become a UKC "Super Dog". A dog must be a conformation champion and be titled in agility, obedience, and weight pull in order to be a Super Dog.

As I mentioned, I hadn't really planned to breed when I purchased Radar, but as time passed I knew I had a quality female with a lot of ability and some good qualities to pass on to the breed. I also wanted a young dog to show. I selected Ch. Dumbrition Double Diamond at Berlscarg as the sire. The litter was born in March 2000. From these first pups, Radar produced 3 champions: Ch. Sureshot's Duplicate Copy, Ch. Sureshot's King Louie, and Ch. Heart N Soul's Honor of Sureshot (the only 3 from the litter shown) and 2 top performance dogs."

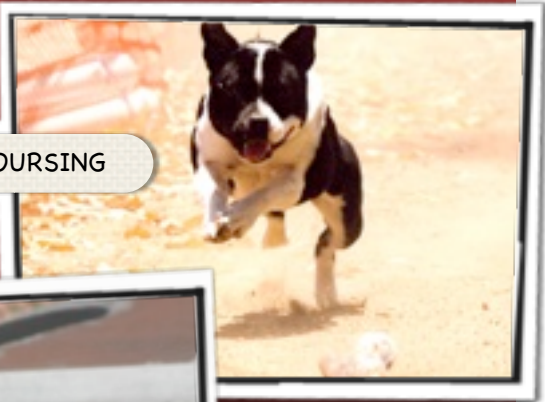
- Karyn

KARYN DAWES CONTINUED



WEIGHT PULL

AND OF COURSE, IF THAT WASN'T DIFFICULT ENOUGH, LETS TRY IT IN THE SNOW!



LURE COURSING



CH. LINESTAFF COACHMAN

Coach was Karyn's second stafford and her first male. She never planned on campaigning him until he took BOB at the SBTCl Specialty at Great Western. I don't think I traveled so much in my entire life as I did with Karyn the following year! That's when I learned all about RV parks, (one of our favorites was the Rogue River RV park) sleeping in Roadside Rest's and just how many Staffords you could cram into a GMC van, aptly nicknamed "LongFellow". One of the very first shows we went to was in Yuba City. We were late, she had a cart with staffords and I had a cart with staffords. We ran to ringside...well she ran and I hobbled. I didn't know all of her's all that well yet so I kept looking into crates and seeing all these little black faces! The ring steward knew me from all the shows I was ring-mom for Stacie, so he'd whisper into Karyn's ear the registered name from the catalogue name (you know he couldn't simple yell it out to me!) and she'd tell him the call name or nick name and he'd say, "Hey Cindy, bring RAY RAY" or "next online is "STEVIE" and I'd yank out a stafford and run it over to her! Right then I was sweating bullets but we laughed hysterically afterwards!

- Cindy

"IT ISN'T ANY SECRET THAT I LOVE TRAINING DOGS. STAFFORDS MAKE IT PARTICULARLY FUN AND ENJOYABLE. THEY ARE CHALLENGING. THEY ARE CLOWNS. THEY ARE SMART. THEY ARE FUNNY. THEY ARE SIMPLY THE BEST! TRAINING, WHETHER IT IS SIMPLE TRICKS OR COMPETITION OBEDIENCE ENHANCES THE RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR DOG, TAKING IT TO A WHOLE NEW LEVEL OF UNDERSTANDING. IT IS GENUINE QUALITY TIME WELL SPENT." - KARYN



"OWNING THE BULL AND TERRIER BREEDS HAS INTRODUCED ME TO PEOPLE ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND AROUND THE WORLD, MANY OF WHOM I NOW COUNT AMONG MY FRIENDS - MY STAFFORD FAMILY. IT HAS TAKEN ME PLACES I NEVER THOUGHT I'D GO. MOST PEOPLE ONLY DREAM OF WESTMINSTER OR GOING TO CRUFTS IN ENGLAND - I HAVE BEEN THERE BECAUSE OF MY STAFFORDS. I HAVE ALSO BEEN PLACES I WISH I DIDN'T HAVE TO GO - TO LOS ANGELES FOR LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS - TO SACRAMENTO FOR BSL HEARINGS - TO COUNTY COUNCIL MEETINGS REGARDING DOG LEGISLATION - TO RALLIES AGAINST MANDATORY SPAY/NEUTER - BUT IT'S PART OF THE RESPONSIBILITY THAT COMES WITH OWNING AND LOVING THE BULL AND TERRIERS. I HOPE I NEVER SEE THE DAY WHEN I AM UNABLE TO OWN MY BREED OF CHOICE. LIKE A GAME STAFFORD, I WILL FIGHT TO THE DEATH TO HELP ENSURE THAT I NEVER LOSE THE PRIVILEGE OF OWNING ANY OF THE BULL AND TERRIER BREEDS. THEY HAVE GIVEN ME SO MUCH THAT I WILL DO ANYTHING I CAN TO GIVE SOMETHING BACK TO THE BREED AND HELP PRESERVE OUR RIGHTS AS DOG OWNERS." - KARYN



KARYN DAWES CONTINUED

KARYN WAS MY FRIEND, MY MENTOR, MY SISTER IN ALL THINGS; THE DOG WORLD, THE REAL WORLD. WE TRAVELED TOGETHER SO MANY TIMES SHE USED TO SAY WE WERE THELMA AND LOUISE. I WAS LOUISE. OF COURSE, I'D ALWAYS SCREW IT UP:

"HERE'S ANOTHER FINE MESS YOU'VE GOTTEN US IN TO, WILMA!"

SHE'D SNORT OUT A LAUGH AND SAY, "IF YOU CAN'T GET MY NAME STRAIGHT, DON'T GO BLAMING ME FOR GETTING US INTO TROUBLE!" AND WE'D BOTH LAUGH!

IS THERE MORE THAT I COULD SAY ABOUT MY REMARKABLE FRIEND? HELL YES! BUT IT WOULD TAKE ANOTHER LIFETIME.



Below -
1932 Fairchild - bi wing which she started restoring with her Dad. When he passed she completed the restoration and flew it. She kept her pilots license active and was also an instructor.



KARYN DAWES CONTINUED



FEISTY



DITTO



NEON



DITTO, ET, HONOR

- TOTAL DOGS

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO TOOK ALL THE PHOTOS USED IN THIS TRIBUTE - YOU ARE TOO MANY TO NAME BUT WE LEFT YOUR SIGNATURE/WATERMARK WHERE POSSIBLE.

Karyn's Record Breaking Number of SUPER DOGS

with notes by Cindy Long



FO UWPV UWPCHX UACH UCDX GRCH Sonshine's Fly By Night

Staffordshire Bull Terrier
Owned by Karyn Dawes

Radar, Karyn's 1st stafford. 3/18/1997 dob and still toddling around!
Her story is on page 3 of this article



CH UWP UCDX UACH Showking's Bungie Jumper

American Pit Bull Terrier
Owned by Karyn M. Dawes
Bred by

Karyn Dawes' third Super Dog reached this status at the age of 11 years. At the age of 12, Bungie qualified for her last Open leg to earn her UCDX. If I am not mistaken, she's the oldest APBT to complete the requirements for this title. Gotta love the old ones who are still willing to work! It wasn't pretty, but she got the job done! - Karyn

Bungie, ILP AmStaff, when I first met her she was people shy and Karyn was working her out of it. At the age of 11 Karyn retired her and then she got her Eukanuba Invitational so she came back out again to run at Eukanuba.



Photo by Valerie Piltz

UCH UWPCHX UCD UACH UFO Duvall's Sureshot Kamakazi

American Pit Bull Terrier
Owned by Karyn Dawes
Bred by Sharon Duvall and Jerry Duvall

Banzai ~ Karyn was looking for another dog to do everything after she lost her Bull Dozer. Sharon (Duval) was a close friend of mine and they had just had a litter. Banzai has done everything and is now ranked in the top 5 in Agility and we are waiting for her invitation to go to FL. Karyn was so excited, both Feisty and Banzai made the top 5.



UCD UWPO UWPCHX UAGII GRCH Heart N Souls Honor Of Sureshot

Staffordshire Bull Terrier
Owned by Karyn M Dawes
Bred by Karyn M Dawes

Honor - you can read her story on 1st page of this article

A Super Dog is an unofficial title given to dogs who earn a title in each of the following five UKC all-breed events; conformation, obedience, agility, rally obedience and weight pull



UCD UWPO UWPCHX UAGII GRCH Karma's Ain't No Sunshine

Staffordshire Bull Terrier
Owned by Karyn M Dawes
Bred by Susan Krauth

Neon, smarts and beauty in one package! Karyn and I both thought she had the perfect head! She was also what some would call "hot". Couldn't run her with any of the staffords, but Mooney, Karyn's AmStaff, was the one who never reacted to Neon's snarfs and growls. Karyn would tell me to put a bone or ball in Neon's mouth and then she and Moonie would take off down to the big kennel, as fast as they could run, Neon grumbling and growling all the way with a mouth full of ball! Neon: beautiful, energetic, athletic, oh how she could fly!



FO UCD UWPV UWPCHX UACH GRCH Sureshot's Duplicate Copy

Ditto is the daughter of SuperDog #14
Staffordshire Bull Terrier
Owned by Karyn Dawes
Bred by Karyn Dawes

Ditto, (Dibby, Dibby Doo) Honor's litter sister. (Duplicate Copy because she looked so much like Radar!) She is missing her mama so very much.



UCD FO UAGI UWP GRCH Sureshot Gemini Movn on Up

Staffordshire Bull Terrier
Owned by Beth Lloyd, Edward Lloyd and Karyn M. Dawes
Bred by Karyn M Dawes
Uppy is a 3rd generation SUPER DOG. Uppy is daughter to the #21 SUPER DOG and granddaughter to the #14 SUPER DOG

Uppy



Photo B. Gasmen

UCD RO2 UAGI UWPO UWPCH GRCH Sureshot Gemini Feelin' Feisty

Staffordshire Bull Terrier
Bred by Beth and Edward Lloyd
Owned by Karyn Dawes
Feisty is a 4th generation Super Dog. Super Dog #14 is her Great Grandmother, Super Dog #21 is her Grandmother and Super Dog #44 is her Dam.

This is **Feisty** ~ and she IS. She is fantastic and fast and so very busy! LOL But Karyn can feed and run all of the Radar girls together; I almost fainted the first time she put 5 food bowls down and then let them all out!



GRCH UCD URO1 UAGII UWPS UWPCHX Sureshot's Little Bit of Luck

Staffordshire Bull Terrier
Bred by Karyn M Dawes
Owned by Karyn M Dawes

This is **Itty Bitty**, of course, Honor's puppy. 3 puppies survived, a male and two females. (CH) Sureshots Mustang Sally was black brindle, like Honor), Itty was her adorable pied self, I knew the minute I saw Itty, she was never gonna leave, even tho Karyn denied it all the way until her first show!



UGRCH UWPS UWPV UWPCHX UCD URO3 UFO Sureshot's One Step Beyond

SBT
Bred by Karyn Dawes
Owned by Karyn Dawes

ET - most of you already know the story of how he got his name

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO TOOK ALL THE PHOTOS USED IN THIS TRIBUTE - YOU ARE TOO MANY TO NAME BUT WE LEFT YOUR SIGNATURE/ WATERMARK WHERE POSSIBLE.

SHE SENT ME AN EMAIL ONCE AND SAID:

"YOU KNOW, THERE ARE THINGS IN LIFE THAT MAKE YOU SAD. THEN THERE ARE THINGS THAT TRANSCEND SAD AND MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE YOU HAVE FALLEN INTO THE DARKEST ABYSS AND YOU'LL NEVER GET OUT."

LAST WEEK THE ABYSS OPENED UP AND SWALLOWED ME WHOLE, GIRLFRIEND! I KNOW YOU WOULD WANT ME TO CLIMB OUT, ALL OF US, YOUR FRIENDS, YOUR STUDENTS, THE STAFFORD WORLD. YOU LEFT SUCH A LEGACY. WE WILL MOVE ON; AS YOU WOULD TOLERATE NOTHING LESS BUT KNOW THAT I MISS YOU, WE ALL MISS YOU AND THE STAFFORD WORLD WILL NEVER BE THE SAME.

THERE IS A LARGE SPACE THAT NO ONE WILL EVER FILL.

CINDY LONG
HEART N SOUL STAFFORDS

