



**DUKE JOHNSON**

**Phoenix, AZ**

**2007 – 2017**

Duke was an incredible dog. He first came to our home as a puppy who we got from one of the neighbors. He fit in with our family very well and loved us very much. He was really smart too. He learned house training and how to use his dog door in record time. I also taught Duke to shake hands and how to play Frisbee in our back yard, and he loved it. I could play Frisbee with Duke for hours. He would run all over the back yard and it gave me some exercise as well.

One night, while my husband was away, I woke up and heard people roaming around downstairs in my living room. I checked on the kids and they were all upstairs in their bedrooms asleep. I was so scared and shocked. I called 911, but I realized that by the time the police would get to my home, the stuff the robbers were stealing would be gone. Duke had gotten up earlier that night and had gone outside through his dog door to do his business and roam around a little.

Finally I yelled out to the people that they had better get out of my house and the police were on the way. Next thing I heard was Duke. He had come back in through the dog door and immediately attacked the intruders. There was quite a ruckus with the growling, furniture falling and the intruders screaming in pain. They ran out of the house dropping all their loot just trying

to get away from Duke. Duke went after them, but they fought him off and jumped in their car and were gone.

Duke kept chasing after their car, but they were really moving fast. When Duke came back, I saw that he had been cut across the neck. I put my clothes on, put the kids in the car, and took him to the 24 hour pet hospital about 10 miles from my house. The Vet said Duke would need a few stitches but that he would be alright. I never forgot that night and how Duke saved all of us. Four years later in 2017 Duke died from cancer of the liver.

Boy I really loved that beautiful dog. Duke was the best thing that happened to our family and I love and miss him every day. Rest in peace my wonderful loving dog. Martha.

