



Barks N Bits

with our favorite
Jack Russel Terrier...

Bella
RIP - "Puddles"

This past month we had a very sad occurrence here at the ranch. I have never witnessed my people become so worried and so upset so quickly. I definitely have a deeper respect and a different perspective of them after being present during such a traumatic time and watching their reactions.

You see, one of "the girls" from outside - the one named Puddles (my hunting buddy) - lost her life this past month. From what I could gather, she somehow managed to get into something that poisoned her. That's what our vet seemed to think.

The series of events that morning included a frantic trip to the vet with Puddles (the people not yet knowing what was wrong) followed by a frantic trip back home to check on all of us other dogs once they realized that toxins were involved. Puddles' sister, Freckles, was the only one that acted like she may have ate whatever it was that had affected Puddles, so Freckles got rushed to the vet next. Then we all waited. We didn't know what was going on, but we knew it was serious.

It wasn't long until the very sad people returned with Puddles - she was already gone - but Freckles had to stay with the vet to so they could watch her and treat her if need be. The entire time I was watching, I

could tell that my people were so sad over the loss of one of the girls, and so worried over what may be the fate of her sister.

Later that afternoon (after I heard the lady make a few calls to the vet checking on Freckles) we all went for a ride to pick her up. Good news - the vet said she was going to be fine. They didn't think she was exposed to as much, if any, of whatever had taken her sister. We were all relieved.

The saddest part of the entire day was when the big people had to tell the little people (they call them kids) about what had transpired that day. They all wept and hugged each other. The little girl was especially sad. It was a very emotional moment, even for a tough Jack Russel like me. I may have even had a tear in my eye.

I realized that my people really do look at us as part of their family. It only enforced my notion when they promoted Freckles to a house dog. She had lost her littermate (after four years of always being together) and they thought it would help the little girl get over the loss. I'll not comment on that action at this time, due to the circumstances I'll suck it up and share my inside time.

Anyway, sorry to be such a downer this month.....but I just wanted to say that I am very happy to be part of a family that values the animals that they have in their lives. It was such a sad time to lose part of our family, but we do know that while she was here she lived a great life. She was never hungry and she was always given plenty of love and attention.

Use this as a reminder to appreciate your loved ones - four legged as well as two legged. Give them a little praise and a little love today. You never know how long you will have them in your lives.

Until next month....
Thank for the memories, Puddles.....

Bella 