

Wags to Riches



Donna Prime

Founder, Volunteer, Grandma

On September 1, 2018 Wags lost one of the most influential people in establishing Wags to Riches - Donna Jean Prime.

Donna was an animal activist from a young age when she won a pony during the Great Depression. She was bound and determined to keep her pony and let it thrive. So, she went around to her neighbors and convinced them to let her tie her pony up in their lawn. In return, the pony would keep their lawn short by eating their grass. It was a win-win.

Later in life, Donna began her volunteering career at Yakima Valley Pet Rescue. She later decided she needed to do more, and together with several others established Wags to Riches ten years ago at the age of 84.

Donna was our first adoption coordinator and would spend hours talking to potential adopters to make sure the dogs and the owners were the right match. She set the bar high, and because of this our adoption success rate is extremely high.

Donna Jean Prime will forever live on in our hearts and the hearts of the dogs we can help because of her. In lieu of flowers she said her dearest wish would be donations to Wags to Riches, in her name, to help further her mission. Thank you, Donna.

Donna Jean Prime
July 13, 1924 -
September 1, 2018



SUCCESS STORIES

BECAUSE OF YOU, THEIR LIVES HAVE CHANGED

RAVEN

Adopted by Danielle F. and Family

Raven was known at Wags as "Jersey," but with her new name she has found a new lease on life. Raven is adjusting remarkably well now that she knows she has a forever home. Her personality compliments the entire family - including the six-year-old cat.

Raven just received her second round of shots and was able to venture out to a family reunion earlier this summer. She spent the weekend socializing with the whole family. She got to play with kids, adults, and even other dogs.

She is a laid back little pup with a sense of adventure.



MAIA

Adopted by Brendan and Maddie

Maia could not be happier in her new home; she is getting to explore the world and show her true, adventurous colors.

She is extremely smart, an awesome cuddler, and loves to hike. Maia recently accompanied her new family on a hike and found a snow bank. The second her paws touched the snow she was zooming around with glee.

Maia's new family cannot wait to spend this winter adventuring with her. She is living the life every trail dog could dream of.

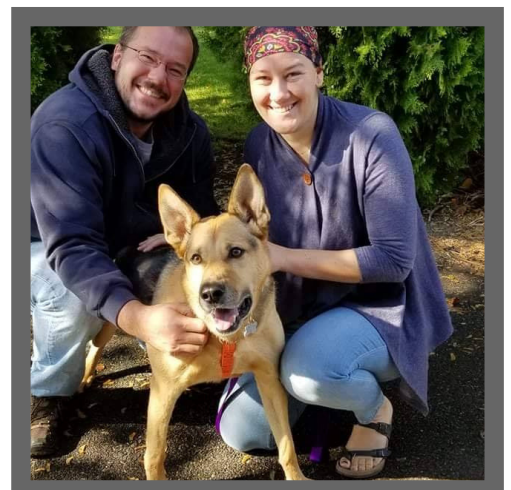
CODY

Adoption special announcement

This section is dedicated to updating you on the adoption success of our beloved animals, and we have the exciting announcement that Cody has finally been adopted!

Cody had been with Wags for over 300 days, and in that time he only had two adoption applications. He is the sweetest hunk of love and it baffled us that no one else could see what we did. Thankfully, we were proven wrong.

After a long 300 days, Cody has finally been adopted into his forever home. We will always have a special place in our hearts for you, Cody!





"W"ARRIOR PUPS

A tale of tragedy, love, and hope.

"He would immediately start screaming when someone would try to touch him and spent the rest of the time with his back facing the world."

This was Wilber, almost three months ago when he, his two siblings, and his mom were saved from underneath a culvert on Highway 97. They were rescued and brought to Wags by two very brave and patient women who spent three days out in 100 degree heat trying desperately to catch the family before a car found them instead.

Whiskey, Wilber, and Whisper were the three pups brought in, along with their mom, Willow, and they became known as the "W"arrior family for the amount of courage the four of them faced life with.

None of them trusted our volunteers when they were first brought into the shelter. Between shaking like a leaf and out right crying in fear, it was easy to see that none of these dogs had been around humans before. But that didn't deter our Wags volunteers.

Once the small family arrived at Wags, we gave each of them their assessment, a nice bath, deworming, and vaccinations. We also noticed Whisper had a serious limp and needed emergency medical attention.

It turned out we were six weeks too late for Whisper. From x-rays, the vet determined her to have a severely broken pelvis with multiple fractures, her femur was pushed up and into her spine, and she had been in a tremendous amount of pain for a long time. It was decided to humanely end her suffering while knowing she had been shown love and compassion in the last few days of her life.

While our hearts were broken for Whisper, our spirits soared for the other three. The rest of the "W"arrior family went into foster with one of the women who saved them from underneath the highway and they were thriving.

During their time with the foster, all three pups had been successfully treated for heart worms and giardia. Eventually, they were all altered too and each began their journey to socialization.

All three pups are still learning how to navigate through this strange new world, but each one is on the road to recover and will make an amazing companion to the right person or family.

Stories like this remind us why we do what we do. It also reminds us that none of this would be possible without the giant hearts of our volunteers and for your donations. These pups were able to get the medical attention they needed because of you. They were able to eat regularly because of you. They were able to sleep in a soft bed because of you.

This success story is not because of Wags, it's because of you and your dedication to these animals. Thank you. Thank you for saving Wilber, Whiskey, and Willow and for letting Whisper know what love feels like.



Wilber and Whiskey once they arrived at the ARC.



Wilber and Whiskey at their foster home.



Willow adjusting to a soft bed.

Thank you!





DONATIONS

In Memory Of

Tyler Lundberg by Columbia Valley Fruit
Lucky by Karen Roff
James Burley by Carol Burley
Dennis Kline by Nancy Colleran
Marie Gillaspie by L. Stewart

Memorial

Jake and Kyle by Tom Drake

CELEBRATION OF DONNA PRIME'S LIFE

We will be holding a Celebration of Life with Frosting for Donna on Saturday November 10 from 1-4pm at the Washington Avenue Events Center, 2807 W. Washington Avenue across the street from the airport.

Everyone is welcome to attend and help us celebrate the life of such an amazing woman who did so much for us and the rest of this community.

.....
All donations made in Donna's name will be divided between the new Cat Rescue and Transportation Program, the Senior Pet Companion Program, and our Sanctuary Building Fund. Thank you to everyone who supports our programs and thank you to Donna who started it all.
.....

