

February 10, 2005

Dear Drs. Hall, Bowen, Witalis, Bruner, and staff,

Bill and I wanted to thank all the doctors and everyone on the staff who helped my dog, Tax, last December when he was stricken with GDV. He has not just been my K-9 partner for over 7 years but my constant companion and friend. Your professional care and concern truly saved his life and words cannot express our gratitude.

Upon returning to Iowa, Trax was seen by our veterinarian, Dr. Ryan, and has had a smooth recovery with minimal diarrhea and vomiting within the first few days of returning home. We used Bitter Orange to discourage any licking at the incision and the staples were removed without any problems. Although initially Trax would not tolerate our other dogs (Hawk and Deker) being near him, their relationship is back to normal and they are playing together again. We are currently treating a bladder infection which we hope will soon be under control.

Trax returned to search training at the end of January, gradually getting him back into condition with building and area search work, then returning to trailing work. He was called out recently to work a case in Illinois involving the death of a 14 year old girl. He worked well and located evidence for the investigation.

He has also returned to doing his therapy dog visits and civic programs. One girl at the Ronald McDonald House, who has undergone 10 operations herself, was most interested in comparing scars and the seniors at the Sarah Harding Residence could really relate to the aches and pains Trax had following his surgery. Trax has also been scheduled to do a program on K-9 Search and Rescue at the Putnam Museum/IMAX Theater, and will spend time with homeless veterans at the annual QCCA Veterans weekend.

Thanks again to everyone who cared for my companion, Trax.

Sincerely,  
Lois and K-9 Trax  
Emergency K-9 Operations, Inc.

