

TINY HAWTHORNE – A Lasting Legacy

Jan and Lamont Hawthorne's relationship with **Likarda** began in April 2014 on a trip to visit Jan's mother in Louisiana. The family packed up and hit the road with their two rescued Weimaraners, Tiny and Tater. What began as a normal family trip soon took a drastic turn: Tiny began viciously attacking his brother Tater in the back seat of the family car. When the Hawthorne's rescued Tiny in 2008, he was a quick-tempered, over-reactive dog known for his unpredictable behavior. Unfortunately, this attack was the final straw, leaving Jan and Lamont to face a decision no pet owner imagines making – deciding to euthanize Tiny.



Determined to create a positive situation out of heartbreak, Jan quickly began researching pet organ donation. She struggled to find organizations close to their home in Texas involved in pet organ donation. After further research, Jan located **Likarda** - the leading regenerative medicine company for companion animals, which is located in Kansas City. This was still an eight-hour trip, but one she was willing to make so that something good would come from the horrible situation. After reading about the local pet organ donor network that **Likarda** launched in early 2014 (www.cherishope.org, formerly petorgandonor.com), Jan immediately picked up the phone. On the other end of her call, a compassionate Karthik Ramachandran, Vice President and Founder of **Likarda**, was available to answer Jan's questions and discuss each step of the organ donation process. By the end of that fateful call, Jan knew she would make the eight-hour trip from Texas to Kansas City.

On April 25, Jan, Lamont and Tiny arrived at State Line Animal Hospital in Leawood,

Kansas, where they were greeted by Karthik and his assistant. Although they had not yet met in person, the relationship that had formed between the Hawthornes and Karthik provided the family with much needed comfort. Karthik stayed with the family through the entire process. On their way out of the hospital the Hawthornes were met with an unexpected surprise: their story and love for Tiny inspired the **Likarda** team and everyone at State Line Animal Hospital to raise donations to cover the cost of the euthanasia and cremation.

Several days after returning home to Southlake, Texas, a package arrived from Kansas City. Inside was an urn with Tiny's ashes and a card. Along with **Likarda** and *cherishope.org's* sincerest condolences, on the card was Tiny's paw print. For the Hawthorne family, that paw print represents hope and a new beginning for pets and their owners who will benefit from **Likarda's** research.

Through the generosity of Jan, Lamont and Tiny Hawthorne the lives of other animals will be impacted for many years to come. If you would like your pet to leave a legacy, consider organ donation. When a pet's life comes to an end, donating organs to *cherishope.org* can help pet owners find solace in knowing their special pet will leave a lasting legacy by contributing to the future of renewed health of other dogs and cats.

likardaTM

2002 W. 39th Avenue • Kansas City, KS 66103
913.945.8241 • info@likarda.com



www.likarda.com • www.cherishope.org