

August 2013

Dear Doc and Deryl,

I can't express my gratitude that we were all sent to you when Cody first started having trouble. That you already knew us when it was time for me to let him go made it possible for me to do that more gracefully.

Hogles are clergy for at least 9 generations that we know of. Primarily Calvinists, my Puritan Methodist forebears preached salvation through hard work and personal responsibility. The years have softened Hogles and their beliefs so that we understand that Grace is given, not earned.

And we all know that companion animals are full recipients of God's Grace. My father is the one who gave us a famous Hogle quote – "If dogs don't go to heaven, I'm not going".

Like many members of my family, I have mixed feelings about the notion of heaven. Although I'd like to buy it, I don't really. But I share my relations passion and connection with dogs, recognition of their unique place in God's universe and the gift God shared with man when he created them.

To both of you - Thank you for your kindness, your compassion and sensitivity toward the most special members of my family and your gentle treatment of us all.

With love
Heather Hogle