



Spotlight On a Veteran "LAVA"

CH. PCH It's What's Shakin, AOM, NA, NAJ, OA, OAJ, AXJ, NAP, NJP, OA, OJP, VA, HOF, CGC, TT CHIC #:71279

- *10 AKC titles
 - * HALL OF FAME
 - * VA - GDCA - Versatility Award Winner
 - * AOM - GDCA - National Specialty Award of Merit
 - * IABCA International & National Champion
 - * CGC - AKC Canine Good Citizen
 - * TT - ATTS Temperament Certification
 - * TDI - certified Therapy dog for the majority of her life
 - * Venerable Great Dane
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Lava was 11 yrs old on April 5, 2011 and has

exceeded my dreams in every way. My first homebred Champion, Lava finished her AKC Championship at 15 months with 3 consecutive Majors! She is a GDCA National Specialty Award of Merit winner, Hall of Fame, Breed winning, Group placing, Top 20 contender, Agility Dane!

After finishing her Championship, it took me a few years due to my own ring nerves to start training in agility. Once we started training it was clear to me that this is what Lava really loved to do.

With encouragement from our trainer we eventually entered our first trial, Lava qualified in both Standard and Jumpers with first place wins and I survived my fears. We continued to train and trial in agility. Although I never really got over my nerves I loved doing what made Lava so happy. There is nothing I can compare to the relationship we built training



together. It's like nothing I have ever felt before. When you're out there working as a team, there is a connection, an understanding between you and your dog that is indescribable.

In 2004 she competed as a Special at the Great Dane Club of America's National Specialty and was honored with an Award of Merit.



In 2006 as a Veteran Lava was still ranking nationally in Agility.

#1 Great Dane - Open Jumpers with Weaves

#7 Great Dane - Open Standard

#7 Great Dane - Excellent A Jumpers with Weaves

In 2007 as a Veteran (7 yrs old) Lava was inducted into the **Great Dane Club of America's HALL OF FAME**, after earning her Excellent Jumpers with Weaves title which was also her **10th AKC title!!!**

Lava has been Best Veteran on many occasions but her most memorable wins happened just before turning 9 yrs old.

3 months before turning 9, Lava was Best Veteran in Sweepstakes going on to win a Group 2 at the Tri Valley Working Dog Club.

As if that was not enough, now just days before her 9th Birthday at the Tri-Valley Working Dog Club she was Best Veteran in Sweeps with an amazing Group1!



That was the last time Lava would enter the conformation ring but certainly not the last time she would amaze me.



At 10 1/2 yrs Lava made the 1,500+ mile journey with me to our National Specialty. For fun I entered Lava in agility as her final farewell to a sport she has loved her entire life. It was time to say our goodbyes and honor all her years we enjoyed in agility. I fully expected to do a couple of jumps and leave the ring to the support of our peers but that is not what Lava decided to do that day. She kept running...and before I knew it our run was complete and Lava qualified with a respectable 3rd place win at 10 1/2 yrs old to the cheers of our peers and my tears of joy.



Retired from competition...
Lava went on to achieve Fame of

a different kind...Hollywood! Appearing in TV commercials including one for the AKC Eukanuba Invitational, a national Petco ad, at 10 yrs old she performed with the Superdogs an international company that showcases K9 athletes and entertainers around the United States & Canada. But Lava really reached fame by starring in 6 Lady Gaga music videos! She even walked the red carpet at Lady Gaga's first Los Angeles concert in Hollywood to the cheers of fans and flashes from paparazzi cameras complete with body guards.



Lava has been a great ambassador, representing our breed at the AKC Eukanuba Invitational for years enjoying meeting & greeting the public and of course posing for pictures!

Lava shares her life with her favorite "brown" dog "Brando" and her Grand-daughter "Vendetta". She's an outstanding role model and teacher, who at 10 yrs old traveled to every show with "Brando" as a Special and "Vendetta" who was just starting her show career. She has been instrumental in teaching them the ropes and ultimately leading by example, showing them what it really means to be "bomb proof" in any situation.

Today, you can find Lava at the shows hanging out with her Grand-kids, harassing handlers & exhibitors for food or busy ringside opening up unattended coolers and snarfing up the bait in a blink of an eye.



Lava has lived a charmed life of awards and fame but make no mistake she has also enjoyed a dog's life of daily hikes, swims at the beach, family, friends,



Starbucks, her favorite candy...Peeps and more LOVE and affection than a dog could ever want!

Everything I do, I do for Lava. She is my constant companion, my love, my world. We share a very Special bond & connection. My love for her is beyond words. Wherever you see me you will find Lava by my side! I love you Wee!

Suzzane Kelleher-Duckett

Pacific Coast Harlequins

(Pictures of Lava shows her at 10-1/2 yrs - 11+ yrs except her Group 1 pic...she's 9)

