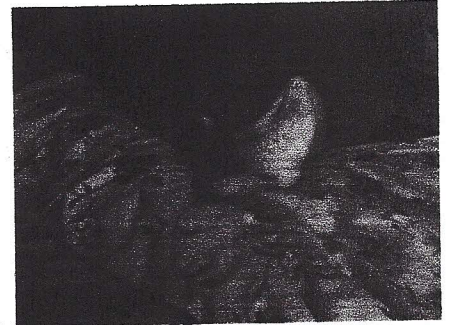


Mr. & Mrs. Alan G. Smith



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

On February 16, 2010 at about 4pm our two dogs got into a fight over a piece of pepperoni, the Jack Russell (Ivy Lynn) attempted to take the food from under the Golden Retriever's (Emma) mouth. In a matter of seconds the Golden had the Jack by the neck and the Jack was paralyzed, eyes rolling back in her head and her tongue all swollen and purple. I was home alone, frantic and new to the area. I called 911 first, then calmed myself and began to think, I remembered seeing the sign on Route 112 for the Medford Animal Hospital. I do not know who answered the phone but she directed me to take my dog directly to the nearest Animal Emergency Hospital, which was in Selden. She helped to calm me down and gave me their phone number. The police arrived and helped me get my dog into the car and as luck would have it my husband arrived in time to jump in the car and be with us to the clinic. Everyone at Selden was quick, kind and reassuring to us that Ivy was in good hands. Ivy spent the night at the clinic and in the morning we got a call that she really should see a neurologist and have an MRI. They handled everything with the Veterinary Medical Center of Long Island (VMCLI) in West Islip, all we had to do was take her there. Everyone at VMCLI was great too! We were seen right away and Ivy had her testing done within a few short hours. Doctor Barone explained all the results in detail and weighed out some options. Everyone was so professional, patient and genuine along the way.

It was a frightening experience that I hope to never have to endure again. I am happy to say that due to everyone's care, concern, knowledge and quick thinking that Ivy Lynn recovered from the spinal injury with no surgery! It is nothing short of a miracle. She is back to her happy, normal self; digging holes, chasing squirrels, chipmunks and birds. Sometimes her front right leg gives out and she walks a little sideways, but she does not let it hold her back from being a hyper Jack!

~~Both Selden and West Islip Clinics called us along the way to see how she was doing!~~
Her own veterinarian (located in Aquebogue), whom she has seen since birth, never called.

It has been 4 months now, and I need to make sure you all understand how important a role you each made in helping to heal our dog. She is so much more than a dog to our family, as I am sure you know; pets are family. Thank you all again and may God bless you and your good works! These pictures are Ivy today.

Yours truly,



Dorlie Smith
(☺)