Sage's Story

I rescued Sage after her throat was slit by an abusive owner in 2012. I had seen Sage abused and even heard her former owner brag that he was going to beat the dog and enjoy doing it. The police taking the dog away and subsequent stitches made it possible to remove her from her sad existence.

I thought I was saving her life when the reality is that she has saved my life more than once. Sage is the most loyal dog I've ever encountered, and protective. Once while camping in the woods, coyotes were creeping too close to us and Sage began to spin in a circle; similar to 'a happy to see you' spin but this turned into a whirling dervish spin that deterred the coyotes and off they went to my amazement.

Another time, while selling wood roadside, 3 men were approaching me from 3 directions, as if they were going to ambush and rob me. Just as I sensed I was about to have trouble, Sage and my other dog, Brandy, began to growl and bark ferociously, making it easy to suggest that it wouldn't be advisable to make any fast moves or harm me. The suggestion was heeded and again, Sage had saved the day.

I'm single with no kids, and no family and Sage has become my family with Brandy joining our pack in 2013. Times have been tough since losing my job in 2015. There have been times when we have had to camp in the woods, which has led to woodcutting, and starting my own business which is labor intensive with little income until the months of November and December.

Sage has a tumor the vet diagnosed as a form of canine genital herpes. When I rescued her, it was the size of a walnut and when I had her spayed in 2012, he was able to remove a large portion but advised possible re-growth without chemotherapy. Unable to afford the chemo, Sage and I made the best of things as we could. The growth is unsightly and sometimes bleeds, but Sage never complains or whines even when it hurts her going to the bathroom. And the tumor has grown to the size of an orange and is now interfering with her ability to relieve herself making amputation necessary to save her life.

I have a great Vet, Dr. Oler who is very hopeful that if he is able to remove the entire tumor, he can refashion the 'plumbing' to enable her to function. And that she has a chance of years more life. Sage's personality has won the hearts of friends who have helped me raise funds to afford her surgery and even donating proceeds from cactus jelly sales to help Sage. Thanks to the generous contributions from Paws for a Cure, Cornville Pet Clinic's reduced fee, the advice from Pei People (Shar Pei rescue foundation), and the generous contributions of friends and family, we are close and needing less than $200 to reach our goal to afford the life saving surgery needed for Sage.

Please help me save my girl who has saved me .