Our family thanks you immensely for taking the time to meet our Henry. Henry is more than our pet, he is our family and to know that he has support during this difficult time means the world to us. For the past 7 years, Henry has been an unconditionally loving companion to many children in foster care system. His innate gentle, patient nature has provided much healing to many hurting hearts. If ever there is a dog that has used his life to make others happy it is our Henry.

In June, Henry was taken to his primary veterinarian for what appeared to be no more than a sprained leg. After x-rays and with pain meds, Henry seemingly returned to his normal behavior.

In July, I went to Ghana, Africa to coordinate a medical mission for people that would otherwise not have medical care. Upon my return I noticed that Henry had a lump on his shoulder, on the same leg that was hurt in June. Henry's vet took aspirates of the mass and his swollen lymph nodes. Ultimately, Henry was diagnosed with both sarcoma (mass on shoulder) and lymphoma. Henry's behavior and mannerisms never indicated that he was ill. Though he must have been in pain, he never complained. This diagnosis was an unexpected, heavy blow. It hurts and it hurts deeply.

We were referred to see Dr. Kerry Risetto, an amazing and warm hearted veterinary oncologist. During our first oncology visit, we were informed that without treatment Henry would have a few short weeks to live. We had 2 options, to allow the natural progression of the cancers or we could fight for our Henry. There was no question that we would do all we could, because there is not an inkling of a doubt that Henry would fight for us. So far, he has completed his first chemo treatment, and has been taking medications to keep him comfortable. He still has more chemo treatments before him, but his spirit is resilient.

Henry still greets us at the door, jumps in the bed to snuggle at night, and he is always ready for a midnight snack. Cancer has not stopped our Henry, and we will not stop for him. From the depths of our core, we are so thankful for you and the care from Paws 4 A Cure family for your spirit of compassion, generosity and kindness has been a blessing greater than we ever imagined.