



## THE KODIAK TAILS

saving lives, one dog at a time

### A “very, very sad dog” gets happy again, with help from KodiakCare



Bubba’s owner noticed a change in her beloved pet after returning home from a weekend away. The 9-year-old terrier mix was losing weight and urinating more than usual. Then he stopped eating. A trip to her regular vet confirmed that Bubba had developed diabetes. “It happened fast,” recalled owner Xa Quach, an engineering student in Boston.

And so began a long, costly ordeal that ended with Bubba getting his appetite back, along with his bubbly personality and a new lease on life.

Bubba almost didn’t make it. After his diagnosis, he spent three days at a neighborhood animal hospital that sent him home when he briefly started eating again. But Bubba kept sinking, and faced with the prospect of losing a dog she’d loved since he was a puppy, Quach reached out for life-saving care from Angell

Animal Medical Center – and KodiakCare.

A week of intensive treatment followed, and it almost didn't work. "It did take quite a long time to get him stabilized," said Dr. Ariel Fleischman, who treated Bubba with an insulin infusion and inserted a feeding tube through his nose. His abdomen was sore to the touch, not only from diabetes but from pancreatitis that aggravated his condition, and he refused food for days. "He was just a very, very sad dog for three or four days," Fleischman said.

---

***- "I wanted to give him a fighting chance. If things don't turn around, I'd have to make that hard decision."***

***- Xa Quach***

---

Quach, understandably, feared the worst. "When it was Day Three and it didn't seem like he was getting any better, I had to think about, 'What if he doesn't get any better? What about his quality of life? What if it keeps declining?' " she recalled. "I wanted to give him a fighting chance. If things don't turn around, I'd have to make that hard decision."

Fleischman joked that Bubba must have heard the fraught conversation because he suddenly responded. "The next day, he turned right around. He started eating on his own and we took out the feeding tube," said Fleischman. "I took him on a walk his second to last day, and he was just trotting around, sniffing everything. It was a success story."

The extensive treatment came at a cost. "When I found out about the possibility of getting help (from KodiakCare), I was honestly relieved," said Quach. "There was hope. I'm grateful." As Fleischman noted, "The contribution of financial aid from Kodiak really helped to facilitate this."

Bubba is back home, receiving insulin injections twice a day from his loving owner, and thriving. Fleischman said the prognosis is good, not least because Quach is "all-in" on keeping Bubba healthy. "He definitely can live a nice, long life as long as we keep the diabetes in check with the insulin injections and things stay consistent like that."

Bubba, for his part, is back to his old self. "He's very friendly," said Quach, who has owned him since he was a puppy. "He's like a little jokester, but he's very intelligent. He's been such a good, good, good pet."

---

# Thank You! KodiakCare Pupdate

KodiakCare donors have saved over 425 dogs in our first two years of existence.



[DONATE](#)

[ABOUT US](#)

## Our Contact Information

KodiakCare  
32 Michael Road  
Simsbury, CT 06070  
4132650772

<https://www.kodiakcare.org/>

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Manage email preferences](#)

