

## Topaz's Story



Topaz came into my life as a little bundle. She was the very first puppy I owned. My other dogs were rescues. I fostered a few Papillons for a breed rescue before I decided to get one. From the beginning Topaz was so calm.

I purchased Topaz in September 2003. Topaz was five months old and weighed five pounds. Topaz was shipped air freight to Denver from Atlanta Georgia. Her "delivery" was a very happy moment.

I was told by the woman I purchased her from "to wear my T-shirt for several days and let my scent get on my T-shirt." Then, send it to me and I will put it in Topaz's bed and when Topaz arrives in Denver she will know that you are her master. That sure worked, even with others around, Topaz knew that I was her master.

When I took her out of the crate and held that little fuzz ball with the sun shining on her hair it reminded me of the gem color topaz so that's how her name came to be.

After a health crisis a friend suggested doing some kind of therapy work with my dog. I came across Denver Pet Partners and took the class then the evaluations. We did not pass the first time since Topaz jumped out of someone's lap. I was not aware little dogs had to sit on laps and STAY on the laps. Also, Topaz was still very young only a year old. When Topaz was a year and four months old we retested the evaluation a second time and we passed as a team.



After passing the class we began visiting at assisted living centers. We also visit at Alsup Elementary School. The kids enjoy reading to Topaz and petting Topaz as she sits in the desk in her own blanket. The kids have had their picture taken with Topaz and the kids get a "paw print" from Topaz after completing their reading assignment.



Topaz celebrated her fifth birthday on May 12, 2008. A few of Topaz's favorite things are sitting in her wading pool on a hot summer day. Snow, she loves to play in it. Halloween & Christmas

because she dresses up on these occasions. Favorite toy is a purple loofa dog from Petsmart. Favorite people foods she loves are ice cream & popcorn. Life cereal.

Topaz knows when it is a visit day. I get her visit bag ready then I get her ready to work. I ask if she is ready to go to work and her tail is wagging a zillion miles a minute. Then she will go wait by the front door until I am ready if she thinks I am taking too long she will bark as to say hurry up mommy.

