

**K.C.'s Sassafras of Weilerbach (Sassy), UD RAE AX AXJ WC WCX**  
**May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1997 – June 10<sup>th</sup> 2009**

We lost this special girl to multiple myeloma on June 10, 2009. Her 12-plus years of life were extremely full and rewarding. She came to us in May of 1997. We will always thank her breeder, Helen Garrels, for letting us have such a wonderful girl. Always full of energy and ready to play, Sassy's zest for life and eagerness to please seemed endless. She learned faster than any dog I have ever had and loved to train. She started her career in the obedience ring and earned her UD title. She did obedience because I asked her to, but I knew that wasn't where her heart was. We moved to agility and she quickly earned her AX and AXJ titles. Then came Rally. She quickly let me know that this was her game. She earned her RAE title in a very short time had had 8 legs towards her RAE2. She had 36 1<sup>st</sup> Place wins in Rally and numerous other placements. In 2006 she was the top Poodle, and top Non-sporting dog in Rally according to Front & Finish First and Foremost Points, and the #5 dog in all breeds. She earned 521 points in just 27 trials. The four dogs ahead of her had points from 45 – 62 trials. These points are given based on number of dogs defeated in competition. At PCA (national poodle specialty) she "officially" won the Rally High Combined award for three consecutive years (2007 – 2009). I say "officially" because in 2006 she took 1<sup>st</sup> Place in both Adv B and Ex B Rally. What is most impressive is that in 2009, she won the award while undergoing chemotherapy. It just shows how much she loved Rally and her fighting spirit. Sassy loved to work and do tricks for people. She was actively involved in some sort of pet therapy program her whole life. In San Antonio she visited Buena Vista Nursing Home and also did work at Wilford Hall Medical Center visiting the pediatric oncology patients and also the inpatient psychiatric unit. More recently she was involved in the University of Tennessee H.A.B.I.T. program where she worked at Patricia Neal Rehab Center as a specialty command dog and also at Wellington Place Assisted Living Facility. She is also the reason we got involved in Hunt Tests. Sassy loved to retrieve, and loved the water. While we were in Germany, she once brought a live duck in the house through the doggie door; unharmed. She earned her WC (Working Certificate) and WCX (Working Certificate Excellent) and was awarded her Silver Medallion at PCA in 2009. She had three passes towards her Junior Hunter title. Just three days before she died she was swimming and retrieving. We'll always recall her unconditional love, enduring friendship, and unrelenting energy. She left this life the way she lived it; always by my side. Rest well sweet girl.

