



HAMILTON POLICE SERVICE

THANK YOU, PSD JAKE

January 9th, 2014.... We chose you to become a member of our team. You tested well and you had "potential"... little did we know at the time just how right we were! I was lucky enough to be the chosen handler, your partner. From that day on my life changed. You were not just 'a dog'... you were a teacher, a partner and a best friend. I was a brand new dog handler and you were so patient... allowing me to make so many mistakes, and guiding me through them. We learned together. But it was outside of work that our bond grew so strong! Every day together... 24/7 and I loved every second that we had. We worked and trained hard, and we chilled out watching some Lions and Redwings games on the down time!!! You didn't care what silly jersey I made u wear 'cuz the treats flowed afterwards.

You had the nose of a champion... Guns drugs and money could not be hidden where you couldn't detect it! A tracking beast, you followed human scent with ease, no matter the distance or terrain. You made me look SO good, and I can't thank you enough for the education you provided over the years.

January 7, 2024, we had such a great run, so many years of training and taking on any challenge that came our way. But age catches up to all of us and that day came when it was time to hang up the collar. You definitely earned it and although you never lost your edge, you definitely adjusted to extra treats and sleeping in!! We took lengthy hikes, and you got to sniff things that you were not allowed as a work dog! Retirement life was going pretty darn good.

But eventually you started to slow down. Food wasn't so exciting and energy levels seemed to decrease. You let me know something was wrong.... And I tried to help. Your mind was so clear and you remained physically strong, but cancer took over and there was no way to fight it.

On November 19, 2024 at 11:45 am, after a very tough and courageous battle, you let me know that the time had come for us to say goodbye!! With tears in my eyes and a broken heart, I, reluctantly, had to let you go. But, a piece of me went with you. We shared a unique bond that few can truly understand. Over the next few days, weeks and months I can assure you that I will miss you terribly. I will shed many tears, but I will also smile at the great times we shared, and the memories we created, not just between us, but with others. You touched so many people with not only your work ethic but your personality. The countless presentations, and public appearances created memories for others that will hopefully help your legacy live on.

So, my boy, Jake, this isn't a good bye! It's a thank you! Thank you for everything you meant to me over the last 11 years! For the laughs, the frustration, your silliness that few got to see, and your unwavering dedication to being the best K9 partner I could have ever hoped to have!!

