

## RIP to, and giving thanks for, my best canine friend

Glenn Greenwald

November 2023

*More than sadness, I feel gratitude for everything he did for me, for having such a beautiful, loving and loyal dog at my side. Grief and pain are the price we pay for love. As difficult as those things are to bear, it's worth it, and focusing on the things someone brought you, rather than the sadness of the loss, makes you see how clear that is.*



Glenn and David... RIP to my best canine friend, Kane (10/2011 - 22/11/2023)

As many of you know, dogs are central to the life David and I created together with our kids. We have 25 rescue dogs at home. In 2017, David and I created our homeless-run dog shelter, [the HOPE Shelter](#), which has cared for and placed for adoption hundreds more.

But every dog picks their human to be closest to, and from the moment David rescued him and brought him home to us in 2011, Kane and I were inseparable. Every photo from every stage of my life has Kane in it with me. We were almost never apart. Even when we traveled, he came with me.

He didn't care about his small size: he was fearless and very possessive and protective. He didn't like any other dogs getting too close. I used to joke that at night, after I went to sleep, he would pick up my phone and go through my WhatsApp chats to see who I was talking to.

About 18 months ago -- just a few months before David was hospitalized -- Kane was diagnosed with an incurable auto-immune disease. Since then, he's been hospitalized more than 20 times. But he always came home.

One of his worst moments was the week after David died in May. The doctors told us that it was extremely likely that Kane would die in the next few days, and would not come home. I was devastated of course and barely able to function from the grief over David. But Kane got better and came home, and then did the same twice more after that. I firmly believed he wouldn't die because he knew I wasn't ready to handle that after David's loss.

When I visited him in the hospital on Sunday, he locked eyes with me for a long time and told me he was going to die this time. I'm now stronger in my grief over David, so I accepted it.

The last 18 months were the worst our family has ever experienced. It has been a huge amount of pain, sadness, agony and fear. But Kane was by my side for every minute of it -- filled with love and support -- as he was from the time he arrived in our lives as a small puppy 12 years ago when David rescued him.

I of course will miss him and already do. But today is Thanksgiving in the US. More than sadness, I feel gratitude for everything he did for me, for having such a beautiful, loving and loyal dog at my side. Grief and pain are the price we pay for love. As difficult as those things are to bear, it's worth it, and focusing on the things someone brought you, rather than the sadness of the loss, makes you see how clear that is.









