

March 6, 2015

To: Comfort Dog Teammates

From: Larry Lay

Re: Passing of Barb Miller

By now most of you are aware we lost our 'Top Dog' last month. As she would say about her late husband Ken, who she lost just a little over a year ago....they beat cancer.

They beat cancer because they are now together with no more pain, no more tests, and more hurts, just the joy of being with our Savior. While we rejoice in her new life, it still leaves a big emptiness in our hearts for those that new her and loved her.

She was our top dog for a reason. She loved the Comfort Dog Ministry and the love and care it could provide for others. From my own thoughts, when we first talked about starting the Comfort Dog Ministry Program, she was on board right away. She expressed to me that she wanted to be the very first to contribute to the program...and she was. When she went to 'Top Dog' training she developed a love for, and from, the folks at Lutheran Church Charities. They continued to inquire as to how she was doing and kept her in their prayer and devotional time. Even before the cancer had reached its final stages she wanted to make sure that there would be a Comfort Dog at her wake, especially for her grandchildren. She was always thinking about others. LCC not only sent one dog for her wake, they sent eight. She would have loved to see how many people would smile, pet the dogs and ask questions about the ministry. It was also so precious to see how those grandkids would hold on to their own plush comfort dogs at the funeral home and at the funeral service. She was so special to so many, and she will be missed.



She not only would have wanted us to go forward with the Comfort Dog program, but she would have wanted it be the best it could be. That is what we are going to try to do. God has a plan! While we are not always sure what it is, people who are hurting will keep moving us forward.

Please keep Barb's family and friends in your thoughts and prayers. There will be difficult times ahead for them. Just from the short time I was able to spend with them, I could tell what a special mother and grandmother she was. Please also continue to pray for the success of the CD program. We are getting to the time when decisions need to be made. We will need God's guidance, which I am sure he will provide.

**Barb Miller Wake and Funeral**



It was with heavy hearts that LCC K-9 Comfort Dog teams attended the wake and funeral of Barb Miller, Top Dog for **St John Lutheran Church, Lombard, Illinois** this past Thursday and Friday. St John is completing the process of starting their K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry and Barb was a catalyst for it to begin. A beautiful example of outreach for

St John Barb left friends and family to be with the Lord whom she served. LCC staff and associates pray for the Miller family and we all find comfort in the fact that Christ's victory over death promises us we will meet her again.