In “You Needed Me,” PAWS® Assistance Dog ARCHER shares his journey from birth to being placed with his partner, Jill.

REMEMBERING DAVE & HIS WING MAN CLYDE
Among the obstacles to Dave's dream of going to UC Berkeley was the fact that his initial application to the school was not accepted. Once in California, he rolled straight into the Dean's office and asked why they'd turned him down. "Obviously, we made a mistake," the Dean replied. He earned his master's degree in 2006.
“TAKING A SMALL ARMY to make life happen for Dave, but it did. Life happened.”

So says Dave’s brother, Matt, jokingly, like a brother would. Dave was born in Minnesota, in January 1969, the second of three boys in a close-knit family. He was born with a central nervous system disorder similar to cerebral palsy. Like so many, Dave’s disability was diagnosed in early childhood; his parents saw he wasn’t developing as fast as other kids his age and took him to the doctor.

Dave’s disorder was degenerative. As a youth, he could communicate verbally. By the time he went to college at the University of Minnesota, Dave was nonverbal. He spoke by finger spelling and writing. He used a wheelchair and had very limited mobility. Family and attendants helped him morning and night.

“My brother had every reason to not want to do something,” Matt noted. “But Dave’s physical condition didn’t stop him. He was very bright and incredibly motivated.”

And Dave had one driving ambition: he wanted to live as independently as possible. He was finishing a master’s degree in epidemiology and public health in Minnesota, and dreamed of continuing his studies at the University of California in Berkeley. But he wasn’t sure how to make that happen.

One day, in a cafeteria on campus at the University of Minnesota, Dave met Emiko, a nurse and professor visiting from Japan, and things fell into place. “Emiko became Dave’s advocate and benefactor,” Matt explained. With the support of his family, she helped him move to California, get set up in a condo of his own near UC Berkeley and apply for a Service Dog from PAWS®.

Dave and PAWS Service Dog CLYDE became a team in 2002. For the next 10 years, the two were inseparable.

“FUELING INDEPENDENCE FOR OTHERS WAS IMPORTANT TO DAVE. HE WANTED TO HELP OTHERS AS HE’D BEEN HELPED.”

Matt shared, “Dave and CLYDE had a whole system of hand signals down. Their bond was remarkable. CLYDE was Dave’s ‘wing man.’ He improved Dave’s quality of life so much, even beyond the tasks he did. Dave’s physical appearance and challenges communicating could have kept him isolated. CLYDE broke the ice.”

Dave did go on and earn his degree from Berkeley, with CLYDE at his side. In 2011, Dave retired CLYDE from service. He applied for a PAWS Successor Dog, but ultimately decided his disability had advanced too far for him to handle another dog. Sadly, Dave passed away in 2012. He met CLYDE at the far side of the Rainbow Bridge in 2013.

But that’s not quite the end of the story. Dave’s spirit continues on at Paws With A Cause® thanks to the estate gift he left to support our mission work.

“Fueling independence for others was important to Dave,” said Matt. “He wanted to help others the way he’d been helped.”

Dave’s drive and achievements are an inspiration. We are so thankful for his example and thoughtful generosity. And we thank you for your support, which makes “life happen” for the clients we serve!
LEAVING A LIFE-CHANGING LEGACY

PAWS WITH A CAUSE is blessed by many loyal friends, like Dave, who want to sustain the organization for years to come. Planned gifts like his take some preparation, but the impact they have for people with disabilities is life changing.

Have you considered supporting PAWS through a planned gift? We’re excited to announce we’ve partnered with Crescendo Interactive to provide you with online resources to make the process easier. You can now visit pawswithacause.org/plannedgiving to learn more about the various forms planned gifts take, download a free wills guide, and explore options for planned giving through PAWS.

We are also delighted to introduce the PAWS Legacy Society. This special group honors friends who have chosen to leave a legacy for the future of PAWS with a planned gift.

To join, simply let us know of your planned gift, and we will welcome you into the PAWS Legacy Society!

Benefits of membership include:

- Annual recognition event
- Personalized tour of PAWS National Headquarters
- Invitations to exclusive PAWS events
- PAWS Legacy Society memento
- Knowledge and comfort that PAWS’ mission work will continue after your lifetime

Please let us know of your planned gift by contacting Joe at 800-253-7297 or jdulin@pawswithacause.org.
THis year, blow out your candles and wish to give someone a better quality of life. It’s possible with a PAWS Birthday Campaign!

Do you have a birthday in the next year? Would you consider giving up your presents to help enhance the independence and quality of life of someone with a disability?

If you answered “yes” to both of those questions, then your next step is to visit PAWS’ website and sign up to dedicate your birthday to PAWS. It’s easy!

1) Create campaign page and set a fundraising goal
2) Ask your friends and family to give a gift to PAWS on behalf of your birthday
3) Watch your fundraising thermometer rise, knowing each gift is changing the life of a client with a PAWS Assistance Dog

If your birthday is coming up in the next three months, visit www.pawswithacause.org to start your fundraiser today!

Dedicating your birthday is just one option for a PAWS Personal Campaign. If you have a different idea, we’d love to help you make it a success! Contact Kelsey at 800-253-7297 or khaldane@pawswithacause.org.

PAWS FACTS
ABOUT PAWS PERSONAL CAMPAIGNS IN 2014

- Raised more than $75,000 in all
- Average donation was $100
- Each participant raised an average of $580
- Campaigns raised 170% more when shared via email, Facebook and Twitter

1 out of 4 people gave when asked by someone they know.
Paws With A Cause® enhances the independence and quality of life for people with disabilities nationally through custom-trained Assistance Dogs. PAWS® increases awareness of the rights and roles of Assistance Dog Teams through education and advocacy.

OUR MISSION

Paws With A Cause®
4646 South Division
Wayland, MI  49348
www.pawswithacause.org

GO GREEN

To receive PAWS communications electronically, email your request and name to: gogreen@pawswithacause.org

YOU INSPIRE US

CRYSTAL NEVER SAW HERSELF raising a PAWS Puppy when she started working in PAWS’ Building Care department almost three years ago. Well, a lot has changed since then.

On her days off, Crystal began volunteering with our Veterinary and Breeding Teams. She attended dogs’ medical appointments and held puppies during their intake exams. She went to Foster Puppy outings and activities. She shared, “The more involved I got, the more I grew to really appreciate the amazing company I work for.”

Crystal joined PAWS’ Training Team last year as our Canine Assistant. “I wake up excited every morning to hold the leash and hopefully gain knowledge and experience as a handler,” she said.

The weekend before Thanksgiving, she took Foster Puppy OLIVE home. “I’m OLIVE’s third raiser, but I am very excited to help her on her journey to becoming a future Assistance Dog. What girl wouldn’t want a lovable Golden pup to snuggle?”

Great question! (We’re not sure.) Regardless, we thank Crystal for her hard work and dedication. We’re so glad to have her on Team PAWS!

If you’d like to learn more about PAWS Dog Volunteer opportunities, please visit www.pawswithacause.org.