



Ruby Blue TD ET JD ADX

DOB: 1/1/1993 - 20/6/2002

I bought my first Cattle Dog from the RSPCA animal shelter at Yagoona in Sydney, NSW. I named her Ruby Blue (Ruby), she was 10 weeks old and from a litter of seven - I was 38 years old and had never owned a dog in my life.

Ruby was by no means the perfect example of a cattle dog, but she was certainly the perfect companion. Together we shared many special moments and she taught me many things.

Ruby was a great "all rounder" Gaining 1 Novice pass in Obedience, excelling in Agility gaining her AD & ADX & JD titles. Effortlessly completing her Endurance Test. And she was a natural tracker, and easily gained her Tracking Dog title.

Ruby & I belonged to a group that regularly visited Nursing Homes. Ruby had a terrific temperament, and where usually the women loved the "fluffy" dogs . . . all the men just had to pat the "Heeler".

She was a very strong dog. Ruby survived cancerous tumors, paralysis tick, black snake bite, luxating patella, and a fractured vertebrae in her neck (caused by killing the snake). But at the young age of 9 ½ she was beaten by Cancer (Autoimmune Hemolytic Anemia). A disease partially attributed to over-vaccination. Ruby was vaccinated annually. I was devastated.

It took me a long time to recover, but I'll never forget her and I know that she will be waiting at the gate for me when my time comes.

My first dog, my best friend Run free now, you will always be in my heart.

There will never be another Ruby for me but my love for the breed is now a part of me, and in my wildest dreams I could never imagine life without a Cattle Dog by my side.