



Guide Dogs
for the Blind



GUIDING YOUR LEGACY

Everyone Deserves to Live the Life They Want to Live | Fall 2023

Couple's Gift for a Lifetime of Gratitude

Robert and Judy Kucherepa give to Guide Dogs for the Blind (GDB) every year. Recently, they turned their annual generosity into a forever legacy by making a gift in their estate plan.

“I wouldn't donate to another place other than Guide Dogs for the Blind,” Robert said. “They've given Judy the independence and life she deserves.”

Judy has a yellow Lab guide dog named *Rosie*, her fifth from GDB. She got her first guide dog, *Lorianne*, in 1993, and in the ensuing years has navigated life with guide dogs by her side, enabling her to live the life she wants to live.



Judy Kucherepa
and *Rosie*

Continued on back

Shakespeare Is a Poetic Match

William Shakespeare's quote from *The Tempest* about love and companionship is the perfect description of K9 Buddy *Shakespeare*—"I would not wish any companion in the world but you."



Paul Robertson
and *Shakespeare*

In November 2022, GDB's K9 Buddy Program expanded beyond kids and teens to include adults who may benefit from the companionship and increased confidence of having a furry friend. This program matches dogs not suited to become guide dogs as wonderful pets to people who are blind or visually impaired.

At 81 years of age, Paul Robertson is a recent recipient of a K9 Buddy. Paul beams when he talks about his beloved *Shakespeare*, and how he couldn't imagine life without his black Lab who has already changed his life.

Born with congenital cataracts, Paul spent his first two years of formal education at a school for the blind. However, by the time he turned 6 years old, there was a new procedure available that removed cataracts, allowing him to see well enough to attend public school.

When Paul's sight began to decline several years ago, he reached out to Guide Dogs for the Blind. After a

consultation, we matched him with a K9 Buddy, *Shakespeare*; the two have been inseparable since.

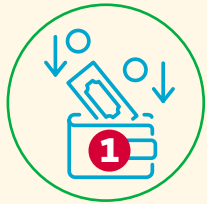
"It's like having a friend. In the two months that we've had him, I've become very attached to him and he to me," Paul said. With their daily walks, *Shakespeare* keeps Paul motivated and active, increasing his confidence. Paul also joins *Shakespeare* in a daily downward dog exercise, helping them both stay flexible.

Now, *Shakespeare* is a part of the family and frequently makes his appearance at a local church where Paul teaches. Whenever *Shakespeare* is not around, the people in Paul's class miss him. "He is extremely good with people. He has a very sweet and friendly personality that everyone really loves."

Paul encourages others who have a visual impairment to learn more about the program. "Guide Dogs for the Blind is doing a wonderful service," Paul said. "I'm sure the K9 Buddy Program would bring pure joy into many other people's lives."

Save Your Money Today, Make a Difference Anyway

Did you know you can make a significant gift to Guide Dogs for the Blind without touching your savings?



Retirement Plan Assets

When you name GDB as the beneficiary of all or part of your retirement plan assets, you don't part with a single penny today.



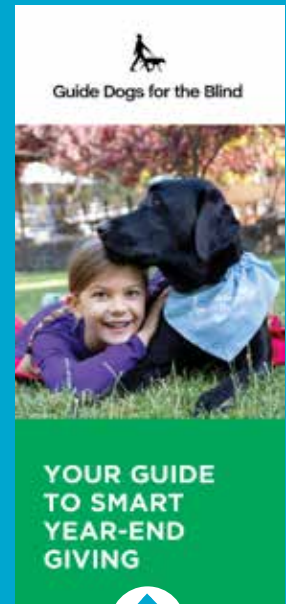
A Gift in Your Will

A gift in your will or living trust allows you to feel good about your contribution now and part with your assets later. Contact us for the simple sentence to add to your will to make the gift.



Life Insurance Policy

A popular option is to name us as the beneficiary of your life insurance policy. You'll receive a tax deduction equal to the policy's fair market value or the total premium paid (whichever is lower) when you make the gift.



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Holiday Celebration

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR
ANNUAL WINTER FUNDRAISING
EVENT

Sunday, December 10, 2023

Register to attend at
guidedogs.com/holiday-celebration



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Couple's Gift for a Lifetime of Gratitude

(Continued from front)

Since getting her first guide dog, Judy has benefited from all the support services that Guide Dogs for the Blind provides to our clients free of charge. Among other things, she has access to a dedicated Support Center, as well as a GDB Field Service Manager who can meet with her at home for any guide dog-related issues that need a personal touch.

“I’ll do whatever I can to make sure the school continues to be life-changing for others.”

—ROBERT KUCHEREPA

Robert says Guide Dogs for the Blind has treated Judy with extraordinary care, spending extra time with her to ensure she understands and feels comfortable with what she’s learning. “A couple of times, an instructor has even flown up to help rectify situations,” Robert said.

GDB is more than a dog school to Robert and Judy; it’s like home. “Guide Dogs for the Blind has done so much for Judy,” Robert said. “I’ll do whatever I can to make sure the school continues to be life-changing for others.”

You can join the Kucherepa’s in building a safer, more secure world for everyone.

Contact us today to learn more about establishing your legacy.