

Tommy Bargains for a Dog

By Liz Gibbons

Ad: FREE PUPPIES: Mother dog is a purebred golden retriever. Father is a neighbor's handsome mutt. Puppies are adorable and will be mid-size adult dogs. I am a veterinarian and will include initial inoculations, spaying/neutering, and written advice on raising a healthy dog. Dr. Jeremy Goodheart.

Respond to Dog 638 c/o this newspaper.

To Dog 638

I am ten years old. I would love to have one of your puppies but my Mom and Dad say I can't have a dog. Could you rent me a puppy on weekends? My allowance is \$3 per week to pay you. My house is near your clinic. Please. Tommy

Dear Tommy. That is an interesting proposition you propose. Could you tell me why your parents don't want you to have a dog? Dr. Goodheart

To Dog 638

They don't think I will take care of it. But I know I will. Also they say it will shed and create messes and ruin carpets and bark a lot. Tommy

Dear Tommy. Ask your parents if I may talk to them. Dr. Goodheart

August 20, 2015

Dear Dr. Goodheart,

Thank you, thank you. I named my dog Miracle. We go everywhere together. He sleeps on my bed at night. I am so happy. Tommy

August 29, 2017

Dear Dr. Goodheart,

You won't believe what happened. My Grandma has been visiting us. Last Sunday we were all outside on the patio. Grandma went inside to make herself a cup of tea. Miracle went with her. In about five minutes we heard Miracle barking. He seldom barks. Daddy went in to see why Miracle was barking. Grandma was lying on the kitchen floor. An ambulance soon came and took Grandma to the hospital. She had had a stroke. Because she had medical help so quickly it was not very bad. She will be okay after some therapy. Mom and Daddy are so thankful for Miracle, and so am I.

Tommy