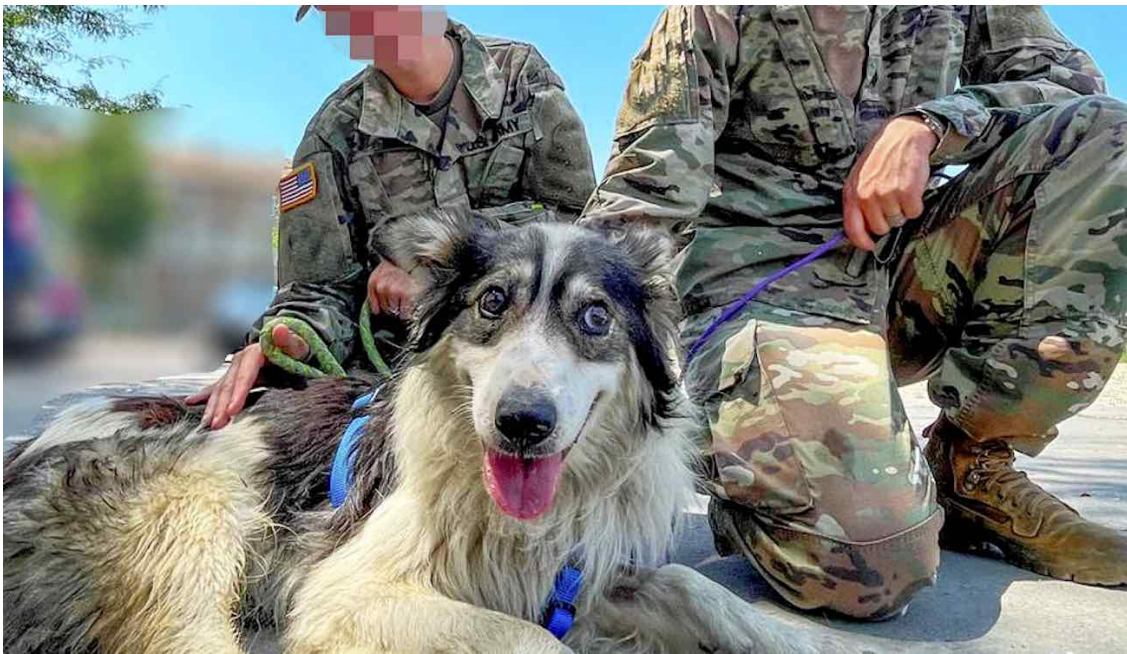


A Homeless Dog Gets to Live Comfortably with Its Soldier Owner

VOCABULARY WORDS

1. mixed breed /mɪkst brɛd/ also called crossed breed; an animal or plant that is a mixture of breeds and is therefore a new variety
Example: These Asian pears are a mixed breed of pears and apples.
2. Sergeant /'sɜːrjənt/ abbreviated as or shortened to "sgt." is a soldier of middle rank
Example: Sgt. Frank reported for duty.
3. wag /wag/ (especially of a tail or finger) to move from side to side or up and down, especially quickly and repeatedly
Example: The dog wagged the tail when it saw the owner.
4. dehydrate /dɛ'hɪˌdrɑːt/ to lose water, or to cause water to be lost from something, especially from a person's body
Example: Air travel dehydrates the body.
5. foster /'fɒstər, 'fæstər/ to take care of a child, usually for a limited time, without being the child's legal parent
Example: Would you consider fostering (a child)?



A homeless dog that brought happiness to U.S. soldiers abroad will now get a chance to live a comfortable life in America with one of those soldiers. The three-year-old **mixed breed** became like family to **Sergeant K.** and his Army unit in Kosovo last year, after they found him looking for food around their military base.

His daily visits and **wagging** tail soon became the highlight of their day, delivering comfort to those far from home. Sgt. Kelsey became attached with the dog he named Duke and wanted to get him to a better life, out of danger. The staff at the New York-based charity Paws of War promised to help, so Duke and the sergeant could be together once more.

But, before Duke could find his forever home in the US, a disaster happened. He stopped showing up at the base. Soldiers searched for him for several days but had no luck. When they finally found him, they discovered he had been shot, was bleeding badly, and was severely **dehydrated**.

Paws of War sent out an emergency animal medical team to save Duke's life. The nonprofit's overseas rescue partner provided **foster** care for Duke while he healed. The pup spent six months recovering and eventually rebuilt his muscle strength to the point he was able to walk again. (Good News Network)

DISCUSSION

1. Are dogs really "a man's best friend"?
2. In what ways are dogs helpful to humans?
3. Do you prefer pedigree or mixed-breed dogs?
4. What would you do if someone bought you a puppy as a present?
5. Do you agree with using dogs in the military? Why or why not?
6. What do military dogs do?