

Our story sadly begins with a tragedy. In September 2013 our 6 year GSP was killed by a vehicle. We deeply missed the pitter-patter of paws around the house, especially our 3 year old daughter, and it didn't take long for us to want to fill the large void left by Bailey's passing. My wife, Jen, began searching the internet for Wisconsin breeders and came across Ed and Emily's website. What caught our attention was their dedication to producing dogs that are family members and ardent hunters. After speaking with Ed several times over the phone and through e-mails, Jen and I felt even more comfortable with our decision. Ed is simply right-hearted! His kindness, courteousness, and patience was evident in all of our communication.

We gladly sent our deposit for our new puppy, Moxie, and a week later, much to our anticipating surprise, found out we were expecting our second child. Uff da, what were we thinking raising a puppy and a baby at the same time? Knowing that time to train a puppy would be in short supply, we did not hesitate to send Moxie back to Ed for "puppy school". Ed did not return us a trained puppy, but rather a well-mannered dog. We were more than pleased with Moxie's advancement and sent her off to Ed's two month adult class. Ed invited me to join him throughout Moxie's training to check in on her progress. It was a pleasure to spend two different days watching Ed train, learning some tips, and solving the world's problems. His knowledge and friendship are truly valued. During one of my visits, Ed encouraged me run Moxie through NAVHDAs Natural Ability test. In June, Moxie received a perfect 112 Prize 1 score. In addition, Ed made a special trip to watch her during her test, which continues to show his thoughtfulness.

Throughout the last 12 months with Moxie, the thought and care that is put into Shining Star's breeding program is obvious. Moxie has exceptional drive and cooperation - she aims to please. Her trainability is outstanding. While all of this is important, her temperament truly stands out. Moxie is simply a sweetheart. She is very gentle with our baby and is beyond patient with our now 4 year old. The pitter-patter of paws is music to our ears and hearts.

We are forever grateful and indebted to Ed and Emily for Moxie - as a family member, companion, and hunting partner.

Ryan, Jen, Rylee, and Bryar Schmitz
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