\*

A special edition of our monthly letter, to the regular distribution plus a few extra parties we feel may be interested.

\*

Friday, July 15, 2005 c:/wklyltr5.5wc26

2005 NHN&WR letter/story #13)

**Jason**

Our dog Jason is gone. Am glad this is not being written with pen & paper. The paper would be soaking wet already.

What had been thought arthritis was diagnosed through x-rays as bone cancer. In the last month he went downhill rapidly. We were torn between a selfish desire to keep him with us as long as possible and pity for his increasingly painful life. Our Vets, who were doing pain management, said that Jason would tell us when it was time. Over the last weekend, with those huge dark eyes, he did. They said, *"Please, ... do something!"*

Monday, July 11, was Jason’s last day. His appetite to the very last was excellent even though we had to hold his bowl up for him to eat. His ‘diet’ had been discarded the month before as in, *"Not much risk on the down side".* He breakfasted on rice & hamburger with lots of garlic and had delmonico steak with ice cream for lunch. At 3:00 P.M. our Vet came to the cabin. In a favorite grove of cedar trees, held by Lucile & Ken, Jason was peaceably released from his pain.

Jason’s was the perfect life. He loved everybody and most loved him. People would come to the house, ... it would be, matter of fact *"Hi Lucile, ... Ken, then ...JASON! HOW ARE YOU OLD PAL!"* Instantly, 100 pounds of happy, wriggly tailwagging dog. For most of 11 1/2 years Jason was never more than ten feet away from one or both of us. He never had a hand raised against him in anger. We can’t take any credit for this, he never needed one. Jason’s antics reported in NHN&WR always elicited response to the Editor,... which of course was him. We will retain him as Editor in Honorarium and he will forever be in the ‘corners of our minds’

Lucile & Ken.

North Hero, Vermont.