

Willis



We weren't sure we were ready for a dog in our house. We watched Dog 101 trying to find a breed that might work in our house. We went to Petsmart adoption events a couple times a month. We would go to the SA Humane Society randomly, looking to see if we could find a dog to help us make up our mind.

Addison (8) wanted a cute, cuddly lap dog, Ryan (8) wanted a playful lab, Mom wanted something smart, easy to train and clean, Dad wanted a dog, but preferred a masculine dog.

After months of looking, watching and talking about dogs we made an afternoon trip to the SA Humane Society, on the last day of summer break. After playing with 5 different cats and 2 dogs we were ready to call it a day. Then we saw Joshua, being held by one of the volunteers. Addison asked if she could pet him. She smiled. Then mom petted him. With that we decided to take one more dog into "the room".

Joshua was timid but loving, playful but not wild. He wanted to be near us but you could tell he didn't like loud noises. After playing for about 30 minutes we decided to text his picture to Dad, who said "are we getting a dog?" Three of us voted yes.

We picked Joshua up a couple days later and decided he really wasn't a Joshua. After a couple days and many different lists and names, he became Willis Norm Garcia. Mostly he is just Willis. For a brief time we thought about naming him Lucky, because we didn't know who was more lucky in this relationship, him for finding us or us for finding him.

Three months later, we have become a dog family. The kids are good about playing with him, feeding him and changing water bowls. They have been better with his care than we expected, but then again

they really pushed for a dog. Mom and Dad both spend time with Willis in different ways and find it a nice peaceful break from the craziness of life.

Willis is potty trained, stays away from the table while the family eats and loves to play fetch, frisbee and tug of war. He is still working on leash training. He has caught on quickly. Sometimes he is so excited to play he starts running figure eights in the backyard. He even “flies” off the short retaining wall, impersonating “Superman”. We love to watch him toss his plastic golf ball. He throws it in the air, circles and then tries to catch it again. He looks like a bucking bronco when he does plays this game.

While Willis may not be the perfect dog for everyone, he has been the perfect dog for us.

