

# Zera



We adopted Zera (f/k/a Zena) from your shelter in December of 2009 when she was over 4 years old. After a rough start, she turned out to be the “Mama” of the house when it came to the other dogs. Our Cairn Terrier Scarlett could get right in her face and Zera never flinched. They just loved each other!

I vividly remember the day we brought her home. We took her off the leash and let her loose in our back yard. I have never seen such joy on a dog’s face. All she did was run, and run, and run. I wondered if it was the first time she really got to run like that. It was beautiful to watch.

Although she was the biggest dog in our family (we have 4 smaller terriers), she was the most gentle. One of our Cairn Terriers, Radar, kind of always let her know who was boss when it came to food. I’ll leave that there, except to say that Zera had a very loud “yelp.” Thankfully it only happened a couple times.

We called Zera “Throw Mat” because she LOVED to lay right in front of any door or entryway. I mean, she simply would not move because she’d found her spot and that was that. We learned to let her have the space she loved and just stepped over her. She never flinched. We’d bend down & pet her & occasionally would get a kiss. This was not a mouthy pet at all. She gave kisses on her terms but love always at any time.

We lost Zera on April 10, 2018. We knew it was time when her legs started going. The dog who loved to run could no longer walk. Our hearts are still broken, and we are dealing with 4 other dogs who wonder where “Mama” is, including her food challenge partner, Radar, who now stares out the windows along the front door. I think he’s wondering what we did with her.

After a couple days of searching, I found the attached drawing an artist drew of Zera while she was at the SA Humane Society. I’d put it in a safe place and forgot where the safe place was. There’s a stain on the plastic, but the drawing is pristine. We’re going to have it framed and placed by her cremated remains which we should get this week. My thanks for giving this to us when we adopted our big girl.

We will always miss her. We’ve raised dogs for over 30 years, but this one seems harder for some reason. Her passing was peaceful, her life was rich, and she certainly enriched ours. Thank you for allowing us the privilege of bringing Zera into our lives.

--Karen--

San Antonio, Texas