

The Story of Mabel and Lilac

Mabel and Lilac's story actually begins with a very sick horse named Sugar. Sugar, who belonged to Michele, had a squamous cell carcinoma. Although it was severe, between Michelle and her team of vets at the University of Illinois, they were able to save Sugar. Meanwhile, a horse owner heard about Sugar's success story, and reached out to Michelle, because her horse Brandywine had the same condition. She was hopeful Michelle could make a difference.

Upon Brandywine's arrival at the vet hospital, and Michelle and the vets saw two things: 1- Brandywine's condition was much worse than Sugar, and 2- Brandywine was VERY pregnant. Sadly, it was discovered quickly that nothing could be done to help Brandywine; she was too ill. But they COULD save her foal. However, the foal would need a foster mom to step in. This is where Mabel (a horse of Michelle's) comes into the story. Mabel was brought to the vet hospital and trained quickly how to be a new mom. 6 days later, a healthy foal was born. She was named Lilac due to the fresh new lilac bushes growing at Michelle's barn.

Brandywine passed away a few days later 😞 . But fortunately, Lilac and Mabel clicked right away, and Mabel became the best mom. A year later, the pair remain very close, and are often seen side by side in the pasture.

