

RYDER

By C.E. Warner 10-13-21

This is dedicated to my daughter, Audra. Ryder was her dog and constant companion for 15 years until his passing earlier in 2021.

As youngster, playful, happy spirit spread.

Challenge was escape for neighborhood run.

Always returned, tired, ready to be fed.

Faithfully loyal to mom as the one.

Lexy born, he becomes protector, guard dog.

Watches as she sleeps, plays; barks warning all.

Joyful, contented life while many years log.

Each night must be first on mom's bed to sprawl.

Spirit not diminished by broken back.

Heals with awkward walk but takes it in stride.

Has his toys, no pain, ready for snack.

Time calls, hair greys and eyes begin to slide.

Running through Heaven's gate is just reward.

As God smiles, grants a good dog's walk restored.