



Buddy

November 12, 2025

Immediately after I retired, I began volunteering at the Animal Protective League here in Springfield. After just a few weeks they asked me to take this sweet dog “Jughead” to a Pet-smart adoption event. This little guy was clearly frightened in the car ride and not much better at the store. He never barked, and withstood the pets of strangers, but he stayed close to me for the few hours we were there. Before we left, I contacted the APL and told them I couldn’t imagine this quiet little guy in that noisy shelter and offered to foster him. Well, less than 2 weeks into fostering, I realized I’d be heartbroken if anyone took him, so I contacted APL again to announce my “foster fail” and desire to adopt him. I named him Buddy, and he became my little shadow, following me throughout my house, snuggling with me on the sofa, and just being the sweetest boy, I could ever know. He was a constant calming presence, and we loved each other so much. He will be missed for a long time.