

## Why I Wrote *The Heart of Your Dog*

I am a lifelong learner. I want to understand everything around me, including all the dogs I've had over the years and all the dogs I've known through friends and acquaintances. I hold degrees in American Studies, Anthropology, and Information Sciences. In addition, I've done advanced studies at Auburn University, University of Minnesota, Syracuse University, and University of New Hampshire.

As a volunteer, I've helped several local arts organizations and served as the chairman of the board at a private school.

Raised in a family of entrepreneurs, I've created and lead several enterprises. These days I work as a consultant to small businesses.

I have two sons James and Benjamin. We now live in a small fishing village on the coast of Maine.

I've always included at least one rescued dog in my family. Chimo is a 13 year old black lab mix and is featured in several pictures in *The Heart of Your Dog*. She was raised using the techniques in the book and has learned all the commands. Those commands represent only about half of her vocabulary. Many of the words she understands, she picked up on her own.

Chimo is a lifelong learner. She wants to understand everything around her.

Through my book I hope other families can experience what Chimo and I have learned.

This year, over six million puppies will be born in the United States. Too many are doomed to end up in shelters, where they will be destroyed. Many others will suffer lives of neglect and abuse.

My sons and I want to help reduce, and someday eliminate, this carnage.

If everyone struggling with a dog and everyone thinking about adopting a puppy read this book, I believe more families will be better equipped to make the necessary lifelong commitment. The reward is an amazing relationship that will enrich their families. The reward for all of us is fewer dogs suffering miserable lives and tragic endings.

It all begins with the heart of your dog.

Ed Noyes  
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