

Mrs Alanis Interview

- What is your name?

Pam Vivio

- What is your senior dog's name?

Andi

- What caused you to adopt your senior dog?

She wanted a dog that she could give great life to towards the end of his life. She also likes the behavior of an older dog rather than a younger puppy that is crazy and energetic. Having an older dog is what works best for her family, being such a chill senior dog.

- What problems do you have with your senior dog?

He pees the bed and has to wear a diaper, and sometimes it's hard for him to eat and he has to eat soft food rather than hard dog food. He doesn't have a lot of teeth because when she got him from the shelter, they had to pull alot of teeth because they were rotten.

- Why do you think it is important to adopt dogs at an older age?

She thinks it's important so they have a family before they go to heaven. She thinks they're so special because they're already trained, and her family got really lucky with Andi.

- What are the benefits of adopting an older dog compared to a puppy or younger dog?

She thinks a puppy takes a lot of training and she doesn't have that patience and puppies have to go outside frequently as well and Andi will have his accidents at night but he's very good about it during the day. Occasionally, he will have an accident but she loves him and he is very easy to care for.

- What do you think the impact of adopting a senior dog

She thinks it gives them a really good life, and he is happy with her family. They sometimes fight over him as well.

- How is it different having an older dog compared to a younger dog?

She thinks its different because hes much more relaxed and when you have people over with a puppy, they often jump on them and nibble on them but whereas with a senior dog, Andi is very loving and he calmly greets people, warms up to them very easily and he is an over all very friendly dog.

- Is it a challenge to have a senior dog?

It's a little bit of work rather than a challenge, he rides in the car very well. The only challenge would be the diapers which are a bit of a challenge but not a big deal at all.

- Why do you think older dogs end up in foster or adoption agencies?

In Andi's case, his owner passed away and he was given to his owner's daughter who didnt want him. She thinks in most cases, their owners pass away or they start to get

sick and have to worry about affording medical bills.

- What advice would you give to someone who is hesitant to adopt an older dog?

She would say to go for it. You still get attached the same way you would a younger dog and she can't imagine what she would do when Andi is gone and you would get so much love back from your older pet.

- Does your senior dog have any health problems?

He has a heart condition. He tends to cough because when dogs have a heart condition they feel like something is pressing on their heart so they have to cough it out, which is not the case but they will cough often.

- If so, what medicine do you use, or how do you treat them?

He takes special medicine for his heart problems, while also taking medicine for his aches and pains just like a human would

take Advil. She can tell when he is in pain because he will whimper but not a lot.

- Can you share some rewards or the joys you have had with your dog?

Just having him around is awesome and having a dog greet you when you come home is great. He is always right next to her when she is working from home, and he is really comforting to have around and very low maintenance.

- Have you noticed any personality changes or behavior that is common in having your senior pet?

She doesn't see much behavioral changes in having her senior dog, but he tends to sleep a lot most of the day.