



# **TRUST**

By  
Bill Wigginton, War Dog Handler, 2000



**In the beginning, we were wary of each other. I didn't know you and you didn't know me. I was even a little bit scared of you, and I didn't know if you would be mean or kind to me. Your kind is so unpredictable. But as we got to know each other, I learned to trust you, honor you, respect you, obey you and even love you.**

**As well as I can understand it; my sole purpose in life is to give you comfort and to please you. It's what I live for. I'll never ask for much in return from you. All I need is the basics that any of my brothers and sisters ask for. Just a warm, dry place to sleep, food and water for my growing body, love for my soul, lots of encouragement for my mind and ego, and a best friend when I need one, for even I have my melancholy moments when I'm sad, lonely, frightened, scared or confused. You make me feel whole when you love me.**

**In return for giving me the basics that anyone could ask for, I will give you more kisses, affection and love than you can handle. I will protect you and gladly give my life so that you may live. I will warn you when there is danger, and be there whenever you need a best friend to talk to. I may not be able to speak your language, but I will let you know how I feel in many other ways.**

**I will give you joy when you are sad, a friend when you are lonely, and laughs when you need them, warmth on cold nights. I will do funny things and tricks to keep you amused and to pass the time. I will obey your every command and wish for you are also my best friend.**

**I know that there are times when I will act bad and do something that you do not approve of. All I ask is that you let me know I've done wrong, and be gentle with me, and I'll try and not let it happen again. I can't help that I make mistakes, but please don't yell at me, or ever hit me. Best friends don't do that to each other. I want you to respect and love me as much as I respect and love you.**

**We have a bond, you and I that should never be broken. Our love for each other will endure long past the time when I am old and broken, and I must leave you. You are my life, my heart and my soul. You are my everything, and I depend on you for so much. Without you, I am lost, I am sad, I am confused, and I am worth nothing.**

**I live for you to love me, tell me words of encouragement, play with me, and give me walks and exercise. I love for you to teach me new tricks, and I even love to teach you a few. The moments that you are away from me are like hours, and the hours like days. Even if you are away from me for only a few minutes, it seems like an eternity to me. That is why I am so happy to see you whenever you come back to me.**

**You and I have given each other the most precious gifts that anyone could give each other. We have given each other our trust, and have exchanged the responsibility for each other's lives. I always want your trust, and will do anything to keep it. I hope and pray that I will always have yours! And one day when I am gone from this world, I will wait for you in heaven. You will recognize me right off, I will be the one who is smiling and wagging my tail with excitement.**

**I am your loyal dog, and will always be your best friend.**

