

Golden Years Shine Bright

The Legacy of Our Therapy Poodles

~ by Laurie J. Rollins - December 2017~



Early in the morning, before the sun begins to rise;
A tedious ritual is begun among yawns and sleepy eyes.

Bathed, brushed, combed, groomed to the nines, nails are all trimmed, too;
Our therapy poodles' day has begun, yet there's so much more to do.

They wolf down breakfast in a flurry for who has time to eat;
For today is to be a therapy day, and they've new friends to meet.

Spritzed lightly with cologne, "They smell so good," people will say;
Adorned in colorful collars that reflect the holiday.

An invitation to jump in the car is ever so inviting;
Their therapy work is about to begin; life could not be more exciting.

Patient poodles pose for photos beside residents placed with care;
The photos a reminder of the good times had while the therapy poodles were there.

They are humbled to be entrusted to lift the spirits of ones so frail;
It is a task accomplished by a well-placed paw and the wag of a poodle tail.

Poodles kiss cheeks at the request of residents as they visit from chair to bed;
In somber instances there's the deliberate laying of a gently-placed, warm head.

They seek the fragile outstretched hands that beg to hug and touch;
For those are the moments in therapy work that inspire our poodles so much.

They listen closely with their hearts to assure they will always hear
the beckoning of those who cannot speak but wish to call them near.

Weak fingers tenderly stroke their coats, memories clear from a haze-like fog;
Our poodles' presence is reminiscent of a once beloved dog.

The range of emotions is so vast and as varied as all their years;
There are smiles, laughter, poignant reflection and sadness with the flow of tears.

Our poodles know the purpose of today is to put happiness in place of sorrow;
They're determined to make the most of today for God does not promise tomorrow.

Till beckoned by God across The Rainbow Bridge like ice on a pond it is clear;
Their therapy work is their destiny and something they all hold dear.

They take to heart their legacy to wipe away all tears and for those in need they make
Shine Bright All Their Golden Years.