

## Navajo

Navajo is a gorgeous 4 year old gray and cream Alaskan Malamute who was surrendered by his owners to the Pasadena Texas Animal Control. Apparently he had originally been adopted from Animal Control as a pup and had been kept as a backyard dog who started escaping and was surrendered back to Animal Control by his frustrated owners.

People who are interested in adopting a pet must give careful thought and consideration to the lifetime commitment and responsibility they have to ensure the care and well being of a living, sentient creature who will ultimately (and, hopefully), become a beloved family member. Pets cannot be treated as chattel and left alone without interaction and stimulation. I have heard about and rescued many magnificent dogs who have been left to fend for themselves while chained or tethered to a tree or fence in the backyard without adequate, food, clean water, shelter or attention. They are left outside to brave the fiercest elements with virtually no food, water or human interaction. It is unbeknownst to me why anyone would even think of keeping a living creature under these circumstances and allowing him to suffer for lack of love, affection and proper diet and hydration.

Just as children become destructive when bored and uncared for, so do our animal companions. We must understand the requirements, obligations and lifetime commitment that our animal companions require in order not only to survive but to flourish. We must come to recognize and appreciate the intelligence and emotional lives of animals – especially dogs and especially Alaskan Malamutes and other “working dogs” who think independently and require not only love and affection but socialization and obedience training. These dogs become our friends, companions, colleagues and family members.

Poor little Navajo had the great fortune of being saved from a life of misery, despair and even death. We have had him for only twenty-four hours, and he has already begun to blossom and enjoy his new journey as a member of our family. He has met several of our dogs and displays a loving, playful and grateful disposition.

We are so blessed and privileged to be able to provide this lovely dog with a home and human parents as well as canine siblings. We will keep you posted as to his progress and development. What a beautiful and intelligent boy he is. We welcome him to our home and family...