

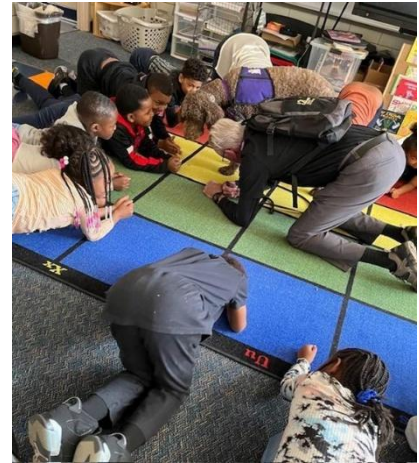
Brad Miller and Jack



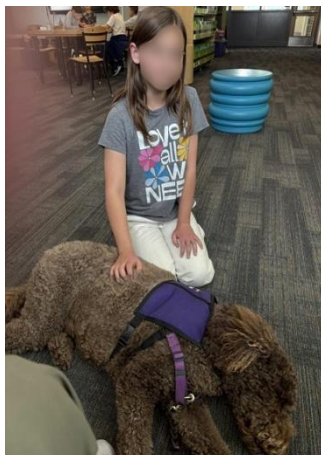
Visiting a small family breeder of labradoodles in Arvada, I met Jack's parents. They were in the home to greet us very politely with wagging tails and quiet eagerness for petting. When asked to exit the home to the garage, they moved without pause or complaint. This was the point I knew I wanted one of their litter.

Our family was no stranger to pets, always with a cat or two and dogs; poodles, great Danes, poodles again. In fact, I had courted my future wife on a Vespa motor scooter with a miniature poodle sitting between us!

Jack wasn't the ace of our beginner obedience class. His (non-biologic) sister was. He handled this with impressive equanimity although thought her a bit of a teacher's pet when within 2 weeks of coming to our home she sat at one end of the gym for minutes until called to come. I think she'd had some training previously as he was older than her siblings.



Jack and I in our first yoga session in 2nd grade



Jack's just resting his eyes!

But Jack excelled in a different way.

He was never anything but thrilled by meeting people (little and big), other dogs, noisy children. He enjoys petting rough and smooth and has handled eight 2nd graders standing around him and touching him in all sorts of ways. He even accepted a stocky and neurodivergent 6-year-old who tried to climb on his back for a ride. He slouched, with great subtlety, until the youngster was coaxed off his back.

He enjoys our reading adventures at Mission Viejo Library but sometimes appears to sleep in the midst of a story. I try to assure the reader he is simply resting his eyes!

DPP Team of the Month (March 2026)

