

# Lhasa Apso For Detecting Low Blood Glucose Levels

By Anne Swartzee - Wiggles' #1 Fan

We love our Lhasas. They make us laugh, cry and we know why they are regularly included in the list of the ten most stubborn dog breeds. For most of them life is having a good time whether playing with their dog family or their human family. The Lhasa I am going to tell you about was not like that at all. From the beginning, she was a very serious dog. Her name was Wiggles, CAN CH Idecleir Buddons and Bows. She was a beautiful dog who did leave us, but also left us with amazing memories.



Her owner Susan Decleir is a Type 1 diabetic who has had diabetes for over fifty years. Using a pump that administers a measured amount of insulin per hour, Susan counts her carbs and through trial and error has learned to keep things on an even keel. Sometimes though, with stress, irregular mealtimes and other variables, her sugar count is too low.

The first time Wiggles tried to get Susan's attention by tapping her with her paw Susan said "What are you doing? Go sit down." When Wiggles would not give up, Susan's husband Ron suggested she check her sugar. Sure enough, it was low and in hundreds of times since that day, she made it her job to alert Susan whenever it was necessary. If the paw tapping did not work, she would

resort to barking and, in a few cases, she had gone over to Ron and barked at him. The problem was that Susan was feeling okay, but Wiggles could detect that things were not what they should be.

When Wiggles was twelve, she decided that her days as Susan's guardian angel were over. Seeing how important Wiggles had been to her well-being, her place was taken by a gregarious Tibetan Terrier named Banting. Wiggles proved to us that she was much more than a beautiful face.

