

As a member of the Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America, I would like to nominate Cash Wall Browning-Smith for the Canine Distinguished Service Award. Cash is owned by Tammy Browning-Smith and Dale Smith of Cleveland, Ohio. His titles and registered name is BIS CH Double O Fast Money, CGC, TDIA, TT, Pet Partners, READ, VSP, THDN, THD, THDA, THDX, THDD.

Cash was born on December 15, 2005. He became a member of the Browning-Smith family in January, 2007, after finishing his championship in the show ring. Cash earned his first therapy dog certification on Mother's Day, 2007. This was a Mother's Day gift to his breeder, Beverly Wall. Cash continued to work towards being certified as a service dog and continues to mentor teams as they train. Currently, he has worked with military service dogs, PTSD/Hearing issue service dogs, diabetic alert dogs, and mobility assistance animals. He travels around the country with Tammy Browning-Smith teaching medical professionals and emergency service professionals how service dogs benefit patients and how they can be of assistance. Cash and Tammy have worked to establish 2 ADA Service Dog Policies for two major hospitals.

Although this list of titles and awards is impressive, the work Cash has done with people has been far more valuable. Cash visits Ohio Veterans Home, Elmcroft, University Hospital; both Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, Cuyahoga Public Library, Lorain Public Schools, Amherst Public Schools, and Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital. Cash has comforted the sick, has brought happiness to families who were experiencing grief, and has felt the grasp of a life leaving this world. There is no greater gift to the sick than comfort. Cash brings comfort to those who are in pain, he brings consolation to those who desperately need to feel his fur on their hands, and he brings distraction during the deepest of emotions. When I asked Tammy Browning-Smith how she was able to sit with sick children and watch them in pain, she stated, "Marilyn Vinson got me hooked on therapy work and when I wanted to quit after we sat with an 8 year old just before she died, remembering only Cash could bring her comfort, I didn't think I could handle it. She took all the time in the world with me to convince me this was the work we were meant to do. Since then, we have been with others during their last hours. We have shared the joy when others are recovering."

Cash deserves this award. Although he may not need additional awards, he has certainly earned it with all the service he has performed in his life, much more than many humans and he would be greatly honored by the award. Not only does Cash work hard, but he also serves as a gift to the breed and to the world and to the lives he has touched. Let Cash be an inspiration to all of you, and to your dogs. Cash is not only a champion in the show ring, but he is also one in the hearts of everyone he meets. He should serve as, an example to every owner of this breed. Shar-Pei can be service dogs and they can be therapy dogs. Tammy, Dale, and Cash work together as a team, and they want to encourage Shar-Pei owners to do therapy dog work with their Shar-Pei. These dogs and their owners can make a difference in the lives of others. Tammy has said when Cash walks into a hospital, many people drop what they are doing to see a real Shar-Pei, and people comment they have never seen one up close or touched one. This can be you and your Shar-Pei if you are willing to make the commitment to work towards therapy certification. Cash Wall Browning Smith, inspiring Shar-Pei, deserves this award.

His titles:

CGC - Canine Good Citizen

TT Temperament Test – National Organization

TDIA - Therapy Dog International

Pet Partners – Formerly Delta

VSP - Versatile Shar-Pei

READ - Therapy Reading Dog Certificate

AKC Therapy Dog – THDN - Must have completed 10 visits

AKC Therapy Dog – THD - Must have completed 50 visits

AKC Therapy Dog Advanced – Must have completed 100 visits

AKC Therapy Dog Excellent – Must have completed 200 visits

AKC Therapy Dog Distinguished – Must have completed 400 visits