

Health Committee, 4-11-2014

Please note that The Legacy of Love Program is now closed. It was a post-mortem study of Norwich Terriers, involving in-depth necropsies performed by veterinary pathologists at Johns Hopkins University, lead by Professor Chris Zink.

The object of the study was to better understand anatomical abnormalities of Upper Airway Syndrome in Norwich Terriers. We termed the program Legacy of Love, as it aptly described the motivation of all involved. Dr.Zink, a Norwich owner herself, tirelessly devoted hundreds of hours of her time, and her lab. The owners who donated their dogs' bodies to the program during a difficult time of grieving for their beloved pets showed selfless devotion to the breed. It was truly Legacy of Love.

Dr.Zink reported that a necropsy of *each* dog in the study took more than 25 hours of her time, and her team of residents and post doctoral fellows. The accumulated data will have profound impact on our understanding of not only UAS but also many other conditions revealed during the study. Dr.Zink has now volume of data to organize and illuminate. We could not be more lucky to have Dr.Zink's sincere passion for the breed. We can't thank her enough for her unbelievable effort!

The numbers of the dogs submitted for the program:

18 Norwich Terrier adults (over a year of age)

21 Norwich Terrier puppies (under 6 months)

4 Norfolk Terriers

31 adults and 10 puppies of other breeds, used as a control group to compare with the Norwich

Dr.Chris Zink will publish the results of her research once the compilation of data is complete, but she has generously agreed to present preview of her findings to Norwich Terrier Club of America members at our annual health seminar on October 2nd, 2014.

Most sincere thank you to all involved in The Legacy of Love!

Please spread the word that the program has been closed.

Regards,

Magda Chiarella
NTCA Health Chair