



***Breakfasts with Buster***  
**Helping Buster Battle Bone Cancer:  
A Journey Through Holistic and  
Medical Treatments for Pets**  
**By Valerie J. Wood**

*Breakfasts with Buster* is a special chronicle of how author Valerie J. Wood and her husband helped their dog, Buster B. Brown, battle bone cancer. A brindle Boxer mix, Buster was funny and sharp. He loved to run and play. He loved cats and trucks, especially the one that bore the same color as his – the brown UPS truck.

When he was diagnosed with bone cancer, Buster was not a puppy. To the contrary, at age ten, he was long in the tooth, but it did not make the diagnosis any easier to accept. Rather than accept the status quo, Wood did her homework and with the help of her veterinarian was able to

make dietary changes in conjunction with alternative therapies, like acupuncture, to prolong Buster's life. She introduced a diet of flax seed, cottage cheese, and sardines. She fed Buster fish and salmon oil supplements. Until the heartbreaking end, when Buster died with dignity, she was able to provide him a better quality of life than any vet had imagined. With this resourceful treatment, the author was blessed with nearly an additional year of breakfasts with her big brown boy.

*Breakfasts with Buster* is part memoir and part animal cancer treatment guide. It is educational and informative for all dog owners who want to give their animals the best care possible and serves as a primer to get them started on a holistic and natural path.

In four accessible, tender, and moving chapters, Wood shares the treatment protocols, provides insights about general health and nutrition, and provides an incredible resource for cancers specific to animals. She shares Buster's entire life and what it took to keep him going after the grim diagnosis as she was able to help Buster beat the odds.

Whether or not you're a dog lover, this tremendous tale shows the difference that faith, love and perseverance can make. It is a story of sorrow and triumph, as it is a diary of a journey that immortalizes the courage the author's big brown boy demonstrated in the face of adversity. It was a very long year but also a very special one.

As Buster battled his bone cancer, he ended up teaching his human friends a few more lessons, ones that are immeasurably sweet and absolutely unforgettable. He left behind wonderful memories for Valerie and her husband, and his story left a legacy that will help other pet owners and their beloved animal friends.

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## Valerie J. Wood –Biography



Valerie J. Wood is a writer, photojournalist and graphic design publication artist. A sportswriter and photographer, she covered the professional minor hockey leagues for *Hockey Ink!* Magazine and is the author of the hockey-themed novel, *Enforcer*. Valerie was an on-field photographer for the 1995–1996 CFL Champion Baltimore Stallions.

She has written extensively for the online magazine, *Femmefan*, ([www.femmefan.com](http://www.femmefan.com)) as senior auto racing correspondent, as well as penning articles for various other online publications.

Valerie is particularly interested in holistic medicine, pet care, animal welfare and animal rights. For more than 15 years, she and her husband, Woody, bred and showed Abyssinians, American Shorthairs, and various other breeds of cats—as well as dogs and horses. The couple makes their home in the scenic Patapsco area of Finksburg, Maryland.

Valerie's new book, *Breakfasts with Buster*, is the touching story of Valerie's mixed breed dog, Buster, who was diagnosed with bone cancer at the age of 10. *Breakfasts with Buster* details the aggressive approach Valerie took with her choice to use holistic and natural methods to accompany traditional veterinary medicines for him.

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Valerie has established a website at [www.breakfastswithbuster.com](http://www.breakfastswithbuster.com) and invites comment and questions at [Val@breakfastswithbuster.com](mailto:Val@breakfastswithbuster.com)