



**K9 - Austin, German Shepherd Dog**  
**November 8, 1997 - July 6, 2011**  
**Handler - Richard Grant MD TF-1**  
**FEMA Certified Type I**

I lost my Best Friend, Partner and Family Member. Austin is gone and so is a large part of my heart. Austin lived a very full life and I feel that I have as well because of him. I am a much better person and I am truly blessed for having him in my life for the many years we had together. Yet I find myself selfishly not able to let him go. Words can't even come close to explaining what Austin has meant to me and my family. I miss you so much already Buddy. As I stare at the many reminders I have of him, nothing will ever compare to the smile on his face, the sound of his bark, bounce in his steps and wag of his tail that he would always greet me with. Anyone that was blessed enough to have known Austin knows exactly what I mean. Austin was truly a gentle soul in every sense of the word. During his working years, Austin was the best Urban Search and Rescue Partner in the world, devoted and loyal to his work with every beat of heart. He sure made things look easy. And all for the love of his toy. It has been a true honor to have been his handler for the years that we have had together. No doubt he was the brains of the operation, making us look good as a team, despite my efforts. No more pain Bud. Until we meet again. Rest Well Brother.