



Could you say no?

His mom couldn't either – and in the end – neither could I.

Shadow was 3 when he was diagnosed with canine lymphoma – a virulent cancer that can quickly steal a life if not treated.

A healthy golden retriever only a few weeks earlier Shadow and his family – a single mom – who works in criminal justice in Chicago, IL – raising two young boys – now faced the battle of their lives – and the challenge of raising close to \$6,000 for his 25-week chemotherapy treatment.

Within a month she had raised more than \$3,000 but had exhausted all her resources

But she didn't give up.

Good fortune led her to IMOM.org – a group that helps Pets in Need and their families raise the funds necessary to help save their lives and their love.

IMOM agreed to help Shadow and his family by posting his story and a plea for donations on their site (www.imom.org)

Shadow's mom continued her efforts – taking on a second job as a waitress 2 nights a week, holding rummage sales, selling Nestle fundraiser candy bars in doctors offices and door-to-door in her neighborhood – telling anyone and everyone she could about Shadow.

Shadow needed help and more than \$3,025 to cover the costs of his chemotherapy.

And on the first anniversary of my lab Sammy's passing – I found Shadow.

And the idea behind **Wrapped in Kindness** was hatched

I needed to help Shadow by more than just making a donation – I began telling my friends his story – asking them to post a prayer or good thought to his website – or make a donation if they felt inclined.

I was amazed at the compassion and generosity – generosity of the heart and the pocketbook – that people displayed.

And that restored my faith in people for it spoke volumes more than any story on the 11 o'clock news.

I picked up knitting needles on a whim and within weeks I was making scarves – not ordinary scarves – extraordinary ones

With ribbons and chenille and all kinds of unique fabrics and textures.

And people began buying them....

Each for no less than the cost of a single chemotherapy treatment for a beloved cat or dog – many for much more.

And within weeks through the donations of strangers, gifts of love and the sale of scarves we had raised the more than \$3,000 Shadow still needed to pay for his chemotherapy.

And in addition to being wrapped in a scarf made with love, and joy for life and in the memory of the kindness of others – they are giving a gift **Wrapped in Kindness** as well.

Shadow lost his battle with cancer on January 18th 2005 – but his story doesn't end there.

This is what Shadow's family posted on the Wrapped In Kindness website:

A note of thanks from Shadow's Mom. "Wrapped in Kindness has forever changed our lives! If you have read the story of Wrapped in Kindness, you already know that Kate has been our saving grace. To say that Kate is dedicated to helping people, help pets is an understatement. She has spent countless hours designing, creating and marketing these beautiful hand-made scarves. In just 3 short months, Wrapped in Kindness donated over \$9,000 to provide medical treatment to pets in need. I have never met anyone in my life as generous as Kate. Her beautiful work is a reflection of her soul. Thank you for making "Wrapped in Kindness" a reality. Whether you have purchased a scarf or donated space for their display, your generosity has touched the lives of many. Kate certainly has a way of orchestrating angels."

Laura McBride and Family

"Kate: You are an angel. I am Shadow's Grandma. We are all so grateful to you and your family and many friends for all of your help and support. Without you, the past seven months would not have been possible. The time allowed Laura and her family so many memories that we wouldn't have had. We all knew Shadow was special, but we had no idea how his life would add so many special people to Laura's life. You are a good friend and I just want to say thanks for everything. All my love,"
Grandma Karen (Shadow's Grandmother)

Wrapped in Kindness can be a beginning without an end – A journey that will continue for many lifetimes – changing people and outcomes along the way.

You can help too and then you will forever be **Wrapped In Kindness** as well.