

1-1-2000

# Forestry 407 Class Saves Treasured Pet

Richard Schultz  
*Iowa State University*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/amesforester>

Part of the [Forest Sciences Commons](#)

---

## Recommended Citation

Schultz, Richard (2000) "Forestry 407 Class Saves Treasured Pet," *Ames Forester*: Vol. 87 , Article 9.  
Available at: <https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/amesforester/vol87/iss1/9>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Ames Forester by an authorized editor of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact [digirep@iastate.edu](mailto:digirep@iastate.edu).

# Forestry 407 Class Saves Treasured Pet

## Dr. Richard Schultz

Mark Hanson of Roland, Iowa, is a recent graduate of Iowa State University. For graduation he received a beautiful young yellow Labrador retriever named Elly. On March 7, 2000, Elly was following Mark's tractor as he was returning from tilling a field. Elly did not see the truck that hit her as she crossed the gravel road to the farmstead. The truck broke her left rear leg and left it dangling by a few tendons. The driver of the truck was concerned and turned around to see what had happened to Elly. When Elly saw the truck returning she took off hobbling across the field away from the house.

Mark and his father Don saw that accident and took off in their truck to try to find her. They drove around for over an hour without any luck and returned thinking that she might have crawled off somewhere to die. Elly had run over a mile to get away from the truck. She has crossed a creek that had 6-7 foot high banks and headed for a small patch of trees.

Approaching the trees she heard voices. Lucky for her, the Forest Watershed Management Class from Iowa State University was just finishing a project on land that Mark and Don farm and were about to head back to campus. Elly came limping out of the trees to a group of students consisting of Chrisitna Luebke,

Bryon Loyd, Jason Hart, and Kelley Seyller. Christina, and Animal Ecology student, had worked at the Veterinary Clinic at Iowa State and assessed Elly's condition. She and the group called Dick Schultz, the instructor for the class. He loaded the four students and Elly into one of the three university vans, sent the other 26 students back to campus in the other vans, and set out to look for the owner.

Cell phone calls to the veterinarian listed on Elly's vaccination tag and a local veterinary clinic provided no help because it was after 5:30 in the afternoon. Because Elly had lost a large amount of blood, the group decided to take her back to the ISU Vet Clinic. That action probably saved her life. En route to Ames the group received a call identifying Mark Hanson as Elly's owner. Mark was greatly relieved when he found out that the class had found Elly and taken her to Iowa State.

On April 11, 2000 the class visited Mark and Elly at their farm. Elly had lost her leg but not her spirit. She ran around wagging her tail and greeting everyone as though she had the use of all four legs. Mark indicated that she was as good as new and was back to chasing the rabbits and squirrels around the farm.



Dr Schultz's 301 class with Elly, the family pet that they saved while on a field trip.