On April 29, 2017, Lola gave birth to eight healthy pups – six girls and two boys. She was a very pregnant girl roaming the mountains of Virginia when the local shelter took her in. Lola gave birth there and a little over a week later, she and her litter were carefully transported to Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue.

Lola was a good mom...no, let me correct that, Lola was a GREAT MOM. And so we named her pups to reflect her maternal instinct (se first letter of each name):

- **G**ypsy (nka Jenks)
- **R**hiannon (nka Violet)
- **E**rika (nka Tinsley)
- **A**dam (nka Harper)
- **T**awny (nka Aubrey)
- **M**aggie (nka Madison)
- **O**livia (nka Ellie)
- **M**ufasa (nka Spirit)

It is with great sadness to start this birthday celebration with the news that Lola lost her battle to cancer September 23, 2019. Here’s what her mom shared with us: “Lola is an amazing survivor. She is my most successful rescue story ever. She is the bravest dog I have ever owned. For three years I had the privilege of watching her overcome so much trauma and uncertainty. At the end of her life, she was an amazingly happy dog.”

“Her eye doctor was able to confirm her age and estimated she was actually 10 years old.” “...the things that I loved the most about Lola was her unexpected nature. When she wanted to do something, she did it. It usually involves overcoming some sort of ambiguity or fear...When she set her mind to something, she always achieved it”.

“The funniest moments with Lola, I was the day that she informed me she wanted her very own bed. She had never shown any interest before, but one December evening she decided that she was going to lay in Champ’s very small little bed. The very next day after I had placed an order for a much larger bed for her, I found her sitting in Champ’s little bed and it was one of the funniest pictures I’ve ever seen.

Every dog I have owned and rescued has brought a significant level of joy into my life. No one stands out alone on their own. Lola certainly has a very unique story amongst all of them and I’m so fortunate to have had her in my life for those nearly three years.”

*Rest in Peace sweet girl. Thank you so much for being the GREATEST MOM and bringing eight sweet pups into our lives.*
Gypsy (nka Jenks) – “Jenks is doing great, great family dog, extremely loyal and a horrible fetcher.”
(editor’s note: no one ever said that Pyrs were good fetchers!)

Rhiannon (nka Violet) - this girl seems to love everyone and everything. She loves taking hikes in the mountains, playing with her “flock of kids” in the yard and keeping them safe at home, playing the lead dog when her humans decide to foster, and now introducing the newcomer animals to the farm.

Erika (nka Tinsley) – “Tinsley is just always happy.... she wakes up happy as if she's simply excited another day is here! She's inquisitive, incredibly smart, and a cuddler to the max. She loves car rides, running, and her big brother the most! We are so blessed to have her in our lives and are so thankful for the opportunity! She sends her love and cuddles!”

Adam (nka Harper) – “He has grown to love car rides (he used to get car sick), loves walks and new smells, and loves people (loves to cuddle) and animals (he recently met horses and is infatuated with them).”
Maggie (nka Madison) - “It's been a real joy to have Madison as part of our family these past 3 years. She has adjusted so well, especially with her 8 yr old brother Cooper (Newfoundland/Golden). Madison loves to protect us and our home from squirrels, other dogs and people walking by the house. She enjoys counter surfing and chewing on socks and napkins. And during this pandemic we are especially careful about keeping our TP away from her. We are so happy Madison chose us as her family.”

Tawny (nka Aubrey) - Hard to believe that Aubrey is already three years old! She's still the puppy in this house! Her face is always full of sunshine and she's always up for whatever I throw at her, like obedience class. Although she doesn't have her mom's height, she has her curls and currently weighs in at close to 90 pounds. Sadly, I lost her adopted brother last year and that loss really affected Aubrey. Jack the cat finally won her over and they have the best times together. She has untapped potential in all sorts of ways, many of them show up without any prompting from me, such as sniffing out scents. She's a love, that's for sure!

Olivia (nka Ellie) – “She loves going for long walks and new adventures. She loves her big brother, Blue (full pyr). Ellie loves to be outside under a tree or upside down on the sofa! She loves her cats and her people! Ellie has the sweetest personality and is allllll love, allllll the time! I am so grateful to share my days with Ellie (and Blue)!”

Mufasa (nka Spirit) – Update for this handsome boy is unavailable.