

## AJAX



My name is White Tornado Ajax VonZephyr. I am a beautiful, elegant White (German) Shepherd and I have owned Dottie & Pete Piroha since August 2001. At 9 weeks old, I literally flew into their lives (by airplane, not storm) from a breeder in Tennessee and their lives haven't been the same since. They named me after "Ajax – Stronger Than Dirt", because of the White Tornado commercials, but I prefer to say I was named after King Ajax from "*The Iliad*", as I have a regal air about me and I expect

my people to be my loyal servants (they need some work on that, though). They should have known I'd rule the roost when we walked into PetSmart for our 4<sup>th</sup> puppy class and I clearly let everyone in the store know that Elvis was in the building. I do have a beautiful, deep, majestic voice and everyone in PetSmart paid homage to the king. I also have the royal title of PetSmart "Smart Pet of the Day" in 2001, and my graduation picture from puppy class was featured on their website.

It didn't take me too long to teach my humans how to play ball. It helped that my older buddies Vader & Zane loved to play ball, too, but I really perfected the game. Finally my mom got the hang of it and then I instituted mandatory mommy play time, which is the first thing we do every day. Mom realizes how important it is for her to keep up her skills and will wake up extra early every day, regardless of what else is going on, to play ball. I love to run fast and jump high to catch balls and my mom thought I might like agility to learn new things (I'm very smart) and to work off some of my energy. I can easily do agility and I know I'm beautiful when I do it, but unless my adoring public is watching me & cheering for me, I'd rather be playing ball in my own yard. I have recently developed a second passion. When I can't play ball, I love eating sourdough pretzels. My dad recently learned how to make the old-fashioned kind and they're the best.

I do have to give up some prime ball-playing time to let my adopted brother, Zeus have some time with my humans. Zeus came from the same breeder in Tennessee but he doesn't have the frequent flyer miles that I have, as mom & dad drove down there to get him, in 2005. As you'll note, he's named after a god and me a king, and he won't let me forget it. But I've got one up on him – I had a wonderful 1<sup>st</sup> birthday party attended by 120 of my parent's friends, with a live band appropriately named "The Lawn Sausages", and everything was German or dog-related. Mom even made big, chocolate German Shepherds to give to everyone with their goody bags.

So you see, my loyal servants have done a pretty good job of treating me like the royalty that I am. My only wish is that they'd play ball more, and I'm working on that every day!

Thank you for listening to my story.

**Ajax**

CGC, CPE - all CL1 & CL2 titles and DOCNA Trigrility & Standard Titles