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“These stories will make you laugh and, of course, cry—and if you don’t have one, they will make you desperately wish for a pet . . . enjoy this wonderful book.”

—Former First Lady **Barbara Bush**

“Thank you to Dava Guerin and Kevin Ferris for this compilation of compelling stories created in an effort to raise awareness about the many benefits of encouraging and facilitating animal adoptions for members of the military community.”

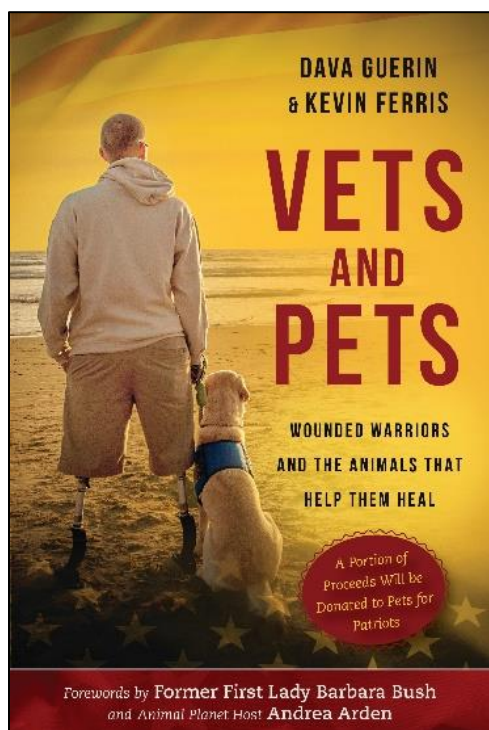
—**Andrea Arden**, Animal Planet’s pet expert and New York City’s best dog trainer, as named by *New York Magazine* and the *Daily News*

## VETS AND PETS

**Wounded Warriors and the Animals That Help Them Heal**

By **Kevin Ferris and Dava Guerin**

Forewords by **Andrea Arden and Barbara Bush**



Praise for *Vets and Pets*

“Dava Guerin and Kevin Ferris have searched for and found the light in the lives of our wounded warriors.”

—**Beth Kephart**, author of twenty-two books, including *Handling the Truth: On the Writing of Memoir* and *Tell the Truth. Make It Matter*.

“Witness the unbelievable healing power of pets.”

—**Jennifer Lin**, author of *Shanghai Faithful: Betrayal and Forgiveness in a Chinese Christian Family*

**Experience firsthand the inspiring, heartwarming, and heart-wrenching bonds between wounded veterans and their service and companion animals.**

*Vets and Pets: Wounded Warriors and the Animals That Help Them Heal* (Skyhorse Publishing; September 5, 2017; \$15.99) tells fifteen emotional and entertaining stories of the incredible bonds between wounded warriors, veterans, and other service members and their service and companion animals. Whether these special relationships are with dogs, cats, horses,

pigs, or even birds of prey, readers will discover how these remarkable animals help veterans return to civilian life and live independently while simultaneously bringing joy and confidence into their lives.

Tyler struggled to adjust to civilian life after losing both of his legs in Afghanistan, until he met his intelligent and willfully disobedient red European Doberman pinscher, Apollo. Vietnam veteran Patrick regained a sense of well-being and hope through the study of birds of prey. Max the horse has helped numerous veterans learn to trust, improve their communication, and increase their self-confidence and self-esteem. Mandi discovered that the intelligence and unconditional love of pigs were exactly what she needed to heal from an abusive past and a disappointing army-training injury. These are just a few of the uplifting stories that are featured in this striking collection.

In addition to exploring the unique, lifelong bonds that can develop between veterans and their animal companions, *Vets and Pets* spotlights extraordinary nonprofits that unite wounded warriors with service and companion animals, including Pets for Patriots, Hooves Marching for Mercy, Horses Helping Heroes, and Avian Veteran Alliance, among others. A portion of the proceeds from this book will be donated to Pets for Patriots.

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#### **About the Authors**

**Dava Guerin** is also the coauthor with Kevin Ferris of *Unbreakable Bonds: The Mighty Moms and Wounded Warriors of Walter Reed*. She lives in Berlin, Maryland, with her husband, mother, and two labradoodles, J. P. Morgan and Tinkie.

**Kevin Ferris** is the commentary editor of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, and his freelance work has appeared in the *Weekly Standard*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and the *Christian Science Monitor*. He has two children and lives in West Chester, Pennsylvania, with an Irish setter named Samson.

<p>To request additional review copies, excerpts, or an interview with the author(s) please contact: <b>Madeleine Ball / (212) 643-6816 x 311 / mball@skyhorsepublishing.com</b></p>
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#### ***Vets and Pets: Wounded Warriors and the Animals That Help Them Heal***

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