## Jimmy Stewart's Ode to Beau Brings Tears to Many an Eye

By Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: Many years ago, house, on the Johnny Carson show, Jimmy Stewart read a poem he had written about his dog. It was so beautiful, it brought tears to my eyes. I tried in vain to get a copy of it, and you are my last resort. I am 93 and living in a nursing home. Please print that poem, Abby. I'd sign my name, but my family would think I've lost my marbles. (Smile.)

GRANDMA

DEAR GRANDMA: The beautiful poem is titled "Beau" . and here it is:

"BEAU" by Jimmy Stewart

He never came to see me when I

Unless I had a tennis ball.

But mostly he didn't come at all. When he was young, he never

learned to heel or sit or stay. He did things his own way. Discipline was not his bag

But when you were with him, things sure didn't drag.

He'd dig up a rosebush to spite And when I'd grab him, he'd bite

He bit lots of folks from day to

day.
The delivery boy was his favorite

The gas man wouldn't read our

meter He said we owned a real man-

He set the house on fire, but the

story is long to tell. Suffice to say, he survived, and

the house survived as well. On evening walks, and Gloria

He was always first out the door. The old one and I brought up the

rear because our bones were sore. He'd charge up the street with Mom hanging on

What a beautiful pair they were! And if it was still light and the

tourists were out, They created a bit of a stir.

But every once in a while he'd stop in his tracks

With a frown on his face, and look around.

It was just to make sure the old one was there

To follow him where he was

We're early bedders at our

I guess I'm the first to retire, And as I would leave the room, He'd look at me from his place by

He knew where the tennis balls were, upstairs.

I'd give him one for a while. He'd push it under the bed with near.

And I'd push it out with a smile. And I'd push it out with a smile.

Before very long, he'd tire of the nights when I think

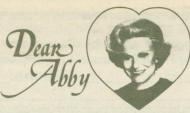
And he would be asleep in his

corner in no time at all. And there were nights when I'd

feel him climb upon our bed And lie between us and I'd pat his head.

There were nights when I'd feel

And I'd wake up and he'd be sit-



ting there

I'd reach out to stroke his hair, And sometimes I'd feel him sigh. I think I know the reason why. He'd wake up at night and he would have this fear

Of the dark, of life, of lots of

And he'd be glad to have me

I feel him climb upon our bed, and be between us, and I'd pat his

And there are nights when I think I feel that stare

And I reach out my hand to stroke his hair

And he's not there. Oh, how I wish that wasn't so -I'll always love a dog named

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