

DENNIS TYLER, 64
Melbourne, Fla.

"Greyhounds are wonderful creatures," says Tyler (with two of his dogs in need of homes), "that just happen to have an explosive sprint."



HE RESCUES RETIRED GREYHOUNDS

Dennis Tyler never expected to fall in love. But after he took in a former racing greyhound named Clara Voyant in 1991, Tyler soon discovered that the affectionate light-brown dog was his constant companion, striding beside him on daily walks and nestling against him while watching TV. "She was a very special dog," recalls Tyler, a married father of two grown chil-

dren. "She blended right into the family." So when he learned that many greyhounds, some injured while racing, faced the risk of being euthanized, he couldn't look the other way. "These dogs can be the most wonderful pets," he says. "I needed to do something."

Since then the retired mechanic and his wife, Claire, 65, have found homes for more than 7,000 greyhounds (floridagreyhounds.com). Using donations, Tyler provides medical care for the dogs, personally

matches them to a compatible family and drives them from his home state of Florida—which has the largest number of greyhound racetracks in the U.S.—to their new homes along the East Coast. Says Lorie Stewart of Satellite Beach, Fla., who's adopted five greyhounds through Tyler: "I just adore my dogs. They call them potato chip dogs because they're so addictive; you can't have just one!"

By Emily Evans and Jennifer Wren

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