

Santa came early to my house in 2012. On December 1st I found a sick and starving abandoned pit bull puppy on my front porch. The puppy, soon dubbed Olivia, and I bonded instantly. I had previously had another dog, Isabelle, spayed laparoscopically and was amazed at how quickly she healed and so when it came time to have Olivia spayed I knew I wanted it done laparoscopically. Unfortunately, I couldn't find any vet in Tulsa that performed laparoscopic spays. I found Coppell Veterinary Hospital online and after speaking with Lisa on the phone I decided they were the perfect people to take care of my Olivia. So Olivia and I, with "big sister" and laparoscopic spay veteran Isabelle along for support, loaded up the car and made the four and a half hour drive from Tulsa to Coppell. It was worth every minute on the road! Everyone was very understanding of our situation and did everything they could to accommodate the fact that we had to make such a long drive. I know how special Olivia is, she has a smile and a kiss for everyone; human, dog, or cat, but it made me feel at ease that the staff and doctor at Coppell immediately saw how special she was too. The doctor and nurse answered all my questions and called me with an update as soon as they were done with the procedure. After a few hours observation, Olivia was released to go home. We drove back to Tulsa that afternoon and she slept the whole way, but by the time we got home she was ready to play! I couldn't believe that just a few hours after a major surgery she was ready to wrestle and play! From that evening on it was like she never had surgery. Shortly after Olivia's spay I found out I too was going to have to have abdominal surgery. The doctor gave me the option to do it laparoscopically, and after the success of Olivia's surgery I felt confident that was the way to go. Indeed, I had my procedure on a Thursday morning and by Friday afternoon I was home taking Olivia and Isabelle for our daily walk! I would joke that now Olivia and I have matching scars, but now, just 2 months after her surgery, Olivia doesn't even have scars! I can definitely say from both firsthand observation and firsthand experience, laparoscopic is worth the time, the extra driving, the whatever, because there is virtually no pain and no downtime. It really is incredible!