

= Rob Roy ( dog ) =

Rob Roy ( 1922 ? 1928 ) was a white male collie owned by Calvin Coolidge . Coolidge 's favorite pet , he was acquired by Grace Coolidge in 1922 after she became enamored with collies , having seen one of the breed perform in a circus . He later lived with the family in the White House .

Roy Roy was immortalized in a Howard Chandler Christy portrait of Grace Coolidge . He died in 1928 after a short illness .

= = Life and death = =

Rob Roy was acquired by Calvin Coolidge 's wife , Grace Coolidge , in 1922 from Island White Kennels in Oshkosh , Wisconsin . Grace Coolidge had reportedly become enthralled by collies after seeing one of the breed perform in a circus . During the period in which the Coolidges owned Rob Roy , they also had a female collie named Prudence Prim . In 1928 Rob Roy became ill and was unsuccessfully treated at Walter Reed Army Medical Center , where he died . Upon his death Coolidge wistfully remarked ,

= = Mannerisms = =

Rob Roy was known as Coolidge 's " favorite " among a menagerie of pets he kept that included dogs , birds , cats , and raccoons . Coolidge himself described Rob Roy as a " stately gentleman of great courage and fidelity " . Rob Roy was known to lead Coolidge to the Oval Office each morning in a stoic manner with gaze fixed forward . Rob Roy 's stately characteristics aside , Coolidge frequently tried to trick the dog into chasing animals that appeared on screen during the showing of films at the White House . According to Harry Truman , Coolidge once ordered Senator Morris Sheppard to surrender his sausage to the dog while Coolidge and Sheppard were having breakfast .

= = Legacy = =

A portrait of Grace Coolidge by the American artist and illustrator Howard Chandler Christy that hangs in the Red Room of the White House shows Coolidge with Rob Roy . The dog 's pose ? a gaze directed toward Grace Coolidge ? was achieved by feeding it candy from Coolidge 's hand throughout the portrait sittings .