**TITLE: DAWG**

*FADE IN:*

*EXT. A SMALL TOWN - DAY*

*The sun is shining, and the birds are chirping as we see an old man, WALTER (70s), walking down the street with his faithful dog, MAX, by his side. Walter is a retired veteran who lost his wife a few years ago and now spends most of his days alone.*

*INT. WALTER'S HOUSE - DAY*

*Walter and Max enter the house, and Walter takes a seat in his favorite chair. Max jumps onto Walter's lap and cuddles up close to him.*

*WALTER:*

*(petting Max)*

*You know, Max, sometimes I think you're the only one who really understands me.*

*MAX:*

*(barks)*

*Suddenly, the phone rings, and Walter picks it up.*

*WALTER:*

*Hello?*

*VOICE ON PHONE:*

*Walter, it's your son. I wanted to see how you're doing.*

*WALTER:*

*I'm doing fine, son. Just spending some time with Max.*

*VOICE ON PHONE:*

*That's good to hear. Listen, I've been thinking, and I think it's time for you to move into a retirement home.*

*Walter's face falls, and he looks down at Max, who seems to sense his distress.*

*WALTER:*

*(sadly)*

*I don't want to leave my home, and I don't want to leave Max.*

*VOICE ON PHONE:*

*I understand, Dad, but it's for the best. You'll*

*be taken care of, and you won't have to worry about anything. And Max can come with you.*

*WALTER:*

*(relieved)*

*Max can come with me?*

*VOICE ON PHONE:*

*Yes, of course. I'll make sure of it.*

*Walter hangs up the phone, and Max licks his face, sensing his happiness.*

*INT. RETIREMENT HOME - DAY*

*Walter and Max arrive at the retirement home, and Walter is greeted warmly by the staff. Max explores his new surroundings while Walter is shown to his room.*

*WALTER:*

*(to staff member)*

*This is a nice room. Thank you for everything.*

*STAFF MEMBER:*

*(smiling)*

*You're welcome, Walter. If you need anything, don't hesitate to ask.*

*Walter settles into his new room, and Max cuddles up next to him. The two of them spend their days exploring the retirement home and making new friends.*

*INT. DINING ROOM - DAY*

*Walter and Max are sitting at a table in the dining room, and Walter is feeding Max scraps from his plate.*

*RESIDENT:*

*(approaching Walter)*

*Excuse me, sir. I couldn't help but notice your dog. What kind is he?*

*WALTER:*

*(smiling)*

*Max is a mixed breed. He's my best friend.*

*RESIDENT:*

*(chuckling)*

*I know how you feel. I have a dog too, and she's my constant companion.*

*Walter and the resident strike up a conversation about their dogs, and Walter starts to feel like he's found a community.*

*INT. OUTDOOR COURTYARD - DAY*

*Walter and Max are playing fetch in the outdoor courtyard when Walter spots a familiar face.*

*WALTER:*

*(excitedly)*

*Hey, Frank! What are you doing here?*

*FRANK:*

*(smiling)*

*Just visiting my mom. How about you? You living here now?*

*WALTER:*

*(nodding)*

*Yeah, my son thought it was time for me to move in.*

*FRANK:*

*(sympathetically)*

*Sorry to hear that, man.*

*WALTER:*

*(shrugging)*

*It's not so bad. And Max is here with me, so that's a plus.*

*Frank and Walter catch up on old times, and Walter introduces Frank to some of his new friends.*

*INT. COMMON ROOM - DAY*

*Walter is sitting in the common room, watching TV with some of the other residents. Max is sleeping on his lap when Walter suddenly realizes something.*

*WALTER:*

*(to himself)*

*I haven't felt this happy in a long time.*

*Max opens his eyes and looks up at Walter, as if to say "I told you so."*

*FADE OUT.*

*THE END.*