



PET LOSS AND GRIEF SUPPORT RESOURCES

It is important for the Pet Ministry to provide guidance and support resources for the loss of a pet. We know the loss of a beloved pet and the grief that follows is a significant life event since pets are part of our families. We hope this information will be helpful to you and also to help you comfort others in their loss.

Submitting a Prayer Request

Please feel free to submit a prayer request for an ill or deceased pet. Online go to <https://resurrection.church/care/> and click on Prayer Request. Or you can call the church at 913.897.0120.

Support

If you need immediate assistance from Congregational Care to cope with your loss, you can call Resurrection at 913-897-0120 for support.

Cremation

For cremation services for your pet, go to <https://www.visitrollingacres.com/>

Commemorating Your Pet

You may want to think about a memory box that would include a lock of your pet's hair, favorite toy, collar/tags, etc. Paint a rock or yard tile. Make a quilt or wall hanging that could include some of your pet's blankets.

Write a Memorial or Obituary

Writing a memorial or obituary for your pet is a good way to honor them. See some tips here on writing a pet obituary.

<https://karenfinedvm.com/guide-to-writing-a-pet-obituary/>

Prayers and Pet Cards

Memorial Pet Cards and Prayers for Pets. Customized in any way you wish. You can select an image from a collection of over 1,500 images or provide your own image(s). You can have any text, prayer, poem you wish on one or both sides of the card.

<https://www.memorialprayercards.com/pages/petcards.html>

<https://www.memorialprayercards.com/pages/prayersforpets.html>

Do Pets Grieve?

Yes, pets often grieve the loss of their human and canine or feline companion. There are numerous resources on the internet pertaining to helping your pet cope with a loss.

Here are some examples that you can Google:

- 10 Tips for Helping Your Grieving Pet
- Dog in Mourning. Helping our pets cope with loss
- Help for Your Grieving Pet
- Feline Bereavement
- Pet Grief Counseling

Pet Tributes and Memorial Donations

Many pet organizations and veterinary schools have sites where you can make a donation in memory of a pet. This is a great way to support someone who has lost a pet, or honor your special pet who has passed. When you make a memorial gift, you pay tribute to your pet and support the organization.

Pet Loss Hotlines

Offered by many veterinary schools as well as other organizations. Most are staffed part-time and will state their hours when you call. You can leave a message and your call will be returned when they are next staffed.

- ASPCA (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals)
877-GRIEF-10 (877-474-3310)
- Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts
508-839-7966
- Chicago Veterinary Medical Association
630-325-1600
- Cornell University School of Veterinary Medicine
607-218-7457

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR LOSS OF PET

Here are some suggestions below. You may also want to check with a librarian in a local school or public library for additional suggestions.

Eight Practical and Healing Ways to Remember Your Pet

<https://www.thewildest.com/pet-lifestyle/memorialize-pet-after-death>

Dr. Karen Fine, DVM has a great resource page

<https://karenfinedvm.com/resources/>

Pet Loss and Grief explained. TED Talk by Sarah Hoggan DVM

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkJGhQANjZo&ab_channel=TEDxTalks

Website Recommended: www.pet-loss.net

Books we recommend:

Grieving the Death of a Pet by Betty J. Carmack (available at The Well Bookstore at Church of the Resurrection)

Animals in Spirit: Our Faithful Companions' Transition to the Afterlife by Penelope Smith

Coping with Sorrow on the Loss of Your Pet by Moira Anderson Allen

Dog Heaven by Cynthia Rylant

Going Home: Finding Peace When Pets Die by Jon Katz

Goodbye, Friend: Healing Wisdom for Anyone Who Has Ever Lost a Pet by Gary Kowalski

Remember Rafferty by Joy Johnson (a book for children)

Saying Goodbye to Your Angel Animals: Finding Comfort after Losing Your Pet by Allen Anderson and Linda Anderson

Saying Good-bye to the Pet You Love by Greene & Landis

The Kingdom of Heart: A Pet Loss Journal by Patty L. Luckenbach

The Loss of a Pet: A Guide to Coping with the Grieving Process When a Pet Dies by Wallace Sife

If you are looking for resources for end of life planning for your pet, see our handout, Pet End of Life Resources.

Pet Ministry
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Rev. 04/28/2023