# Honoring a Deceased Pet

Some of us have had pets since we were little. These pets grew up with us, formed some of our best memories; and we matured from being friends to becoming family with our four-legged pals.

When a pet dies, the loss can sometimes be sudden, and with this comes a lot of emotional stress. During this period, you have a lot of questions play through your mind. Just like you, most pet owners wish they have had more time to consider questions like:

What should happen to the remains of their beloved pet? And what options are there to bury their animal friend in a dignified manner?

Even if the loss isn't sudden, a day will come when it will become clear to you that your pet is nearing the end of its life. Yes, the imminent decision is difficult, and the upcoming farewell to memories and experiences shared will hurt.

It is best to avoid making such vital decisions in a rush and prevent any unnecessary suffering by considering your options early enough - because when we are bereaved, we emotionally don't so well or make decisions we may end up regretting.

If you are dealing with the loss of a pet or are preparing for such an event, this article will give you all you need to know about honoring a deceased pet.

### Immediate Steps to Take After the Death of a Pet

- 1. Check to be sure that your pet is actually dead. Often when a pet is nearing its final moments, there's a likelihood of losing consciousness that could last for a few minutes or even hours before the actual death occurs. Besides, breathing becomes progressively longer, and the heart rate grows ever slower, which can be mistaken to mean that the pet is dead.
- 2. Wear gloves while handling the pet's body as bodily fluids and/or waste are often released after death. Make sure also to clean any areas that might have said waste or hire the services of a professional.
- 3. Depending on the position your pet was in when it died, tuck in their front and back legs tight into their body.
- 4. Contact a veterinarian to help you pick up the pet corpse and preserve it while making funeral arrangements. Pet corpses start decomposing immediately after death and give off a foul odor that might also attract insects.
- 5. If your pet died suddenly at home and the cause is unclear, discuss post mortem options with your pet's veterinarian.
- 6. Decide on whether you want to bury or cremate the pet.

# How to Make Funeral Arrangements for Your Pet

There are several ways your pet can be buried. And many pet owners like their animal's final resting place to be a place they can always visit. The most obvious option is typically your yard, as many lovely memories were made there.

### **Pet** Burial

#### At Home

If you own a garden, this could be your best option when considering where to lay your furry pal to rest. You can establish it precisely according to your wishes and thoughts. What's more, you will have a place nearby to mourn.

However, in as much that this will save you money, there are a few things you should keep in mind. The animal protection law in Germany provides guidelines that must be met with regards to independent animal burials. These include:

- The grave should be on your property and not in public areas. An animal burial is only allowed in your garden.
- For large pets, an informal application for a house burial should be submitted to your veterinary office in advance. If the animal has already been cremated, it can be buried without prior notice.
- The body must be buried at least 50 centimeters deep and must be covered with a lot of earth.
- Your garden must not be in a water protection area, or immediate vicinity of public paths or squares.
- Your four-legged pal may only be buried in containers that rot quickly like a bedsheet, a wool blanket, or a box.
- The pet must have died from natural causes. If the cause of death was a reported disease or if the veterinarian had euthanized your pet, it may not be buried in your garden

You should also find out if there are any more criteria from the city or district administration. Failure to do so may result in unforeseen legal repercussions. For instance, for illegal removal of carcasses, you can be levied a fine of up to EUR 15000 in Germany.

#### **Pet** Cemeteries

If you do not own a garden or can not meet up with the requirements to bury your pet in one, there is another option that is still, in fact, dignifying - this is a burial in pet cemeteries.

This alternative is already available in many cities. There are currently around 120 animal cemeteries in all of Germany where pets have been

laid to rest, and it only costs between EUR 100 and 300 inclusive of the cost of burial rent.

With pet cemeteries, you have the option of having your dead pet buried either separately or in a common grave. Another choice is a burial in a farewell forest for animals where you get to select a tree under which your pet would be buried. There are also cemeteries where individuals may be buried with their animals. Your dead pets can be buried there, and your urn will be buried next to that of your four-legged pals when you pass away.

# **Pet** Cremation

Cremation is a sacred rite in many cultures; fire is used to send a luminous flood of energy through the body and what remains are the ashes with which to preserve excellent memories.

Special crematoria for animals provides you with this opportunity, and the costs are somewhat different and vary depending on the animal's size and weight. Price also relies on whether pets are burned alone or with other animals. If cremated on its own, it costs between EUR 78 and 309 while the price of a communal cremation is between EUR 28 and 210.

With communal cremation, several animals are cremated together anonymously and scattered in a meadow or woodland. Of course, the owners can also visit these locations. However, in single cremation, you get to choose how to deal with your pet ashes. You can take it home in an urn, disperse it yourself or have it dispersed as you desire. You can choose to bury the urn in your yard or a pet graveyard.

As expected, it should be explained beforehand whether the urn will be handed over directly, sent by post, or if it will be sent to the vet where it can be collected. Urns for animals come in various materials and designs so that there is something for every taste and every budget. If you would like to make a little more memorable, you can turn the ashes into a Pet Memorial Diamond. This piece of jewelry allows you to carry a part of your pet with you at all times.

# How to Cope With Pet Loss

Grief at the death of a cherished pet may strike us harder than we think. A part of our life leaves us and creates a void that cannot be filled so quickly. It is not shocking, therefore, that the death of a beloved pet might be devastating. A proper burial memorial of the animal will go a long way to recognize and properly process the farewell.

# Confronting the Stages of Grief

Society can sometimes be reluctant to recognize how bad it can be to mourn an animal. To cope with this loss, it is quite normal and mostly right to give way to grief. Don't feel ashamed to share your grief with others and ask for help.

It could help talk to other pet owners, and there are also forums of mourning, particularly about animal losses. You will find like-minded pet parents who have gone through or are going through a similar experience. Get tips and talk about your problems, so you can slowly find your way back to everyday life.

In your conversations, try not to focus on the painful loss but on the beautiful memories you created with your pet. Your pet will live forever in your memory.

## Honoring the Memory of Your Pet

The most important way to resolve grief is to remember the **pet** as it was in its lifetime. There are many ways to keep the memories you created with your **pet** alive by creating a photo album, watching old videos, or creating a drawn image.

Lonite, a company in Germany, is renowned for offering one of the most creative and unique ways of honoring a deceased pet's memory. They offer you the option to turn your pet's ashes into a pet memorial diamond. You may then have it incorporated as a memento into a piece of jewelry, and there are virtually infinite chances to make a fun souvenir.

#### Turn the Pet's Ashes into Memorial Diamonds

What better choice is there to say farewell to your animal companion you love so much than creating a memorial diamond from their ashes? This is indeed a very intimate and dignified option to bid farewell to your loved one.

Lonite is the most-renowned provider of pet memorial diamonds in Germany. This Switzerland-based company is equipped with a state-of-the-art laboratory, and at the cremation, animal ashes are transformed into pet memorial diamonds.

Depending on the color and size of the diamond you choose, the creation process takes between 3 to 9 months. A .25 clear diamond can be created in around six months for \$2400, and all diamonds derived from this process are both GIA and IGI certified.

This is a perfect idea for pet parents who want wearable memorial diamonds for remembrance, comfort, versatility, and eco-friendliness without incurring typical funeral costs.

# Make a Donation to a Local Animal Shelter

Another great idea to honor your beloved companion is to give to other animals. Gifting your time in honor of your pet's memory may mean you volunteer to clean or complete administrative tasks for an animal shelter. If you have limited time, consider buying food and treats and dropping them off at a shelter. Donations of any kind are always welcome and needed.

### Create a Memory Album

With so many photographs taken digitally on our phones, it's not often they get put into physical photo albums anymore. But a creative way to remember the life of your loved one is by purchasing a plain photo album and printing all of your favorite images from across the years.

Add stickers, labels, or other memorabilia (such as a receipt from when you purchased their favorite toy) and stick them inside. Whenever you feel sad or simply want to remember the good times, a photo album will always spark joy. Another fantastic memorial idea you may consider is having a canvas photo print.

### Keep a Memento

There are many ways pet owners can maintain the memory of their beloved companion. A memorial image of your pet is an excellent reminder of all the good times you share. You can choose a design for the frame that suits their unique personality.

An outdoor memorial is another touching and more conventional way of celebrating the life of your companion. Putting their name on a memorial headstone, or even a wooden bench, can give you a place to feel close to them.

#### Get a Permanent Paw Print

The paws of your four-legged friend are so special. When they jump up to greet you, give their paw for a delight, or just hold your hand, your heart melts. The paw-print of your companion is unique and is one item that you would always miss when they are not with you anymore.

A Permanent Impression is a 3-dimensional print of the paw of your pet. The printing material is soft and easy to use, non-toxic, and convenient for both animals and people who love it. The finished print has superb detail, so you can see and feel the pads' texture and see the indents of the claws and the fur.

This print can serve as a precious memorial at the end of the life of a pet or a record of your growing companionship.

#### Conclusion

Regardless of the option you choose, it is always difficult to say goodbye to your beloved pet. However, the various burial options offer different ways to preserve the many beautiful memories you shared with your pet.

If you had a pet pass recently, we would like to offer you our condolences. It's never easy to lose a family member, and with these memorial ideas, we hope we can offer you some support.

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Pet - (65)/Pets - (9)
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Pet memorial diamond - (5)
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