

Meaningful Ways to Memorialize Your Pet

Writing

- Write an obituary
- Journal (about thoughts, feelings, and memories)
- Write a letter to your pet
- Write a letter from your pet

Ceremonies & Memorials

- Hold a Service (can be formal or informal), can involve getting together with those who knew your beloved pet and everyone sharing their favorite memories
- Candlelight ceremony: see links below for virtual ceremonies (or light a candle yourself at home or at a place of worship – without joining a service)
- Online Memorials: see links below
- Create a memorial video – can post on TikTok/Instagram/Facebook
- Celebrate your pet’s birthday, gotchaversary, and/or anniversary of death (make the anniversary “Pet’s name” Day)
- Maintain a small memorial in the home – can include candles, photos, fresh flowers, an urn, special items, etc.
- Rather than using a traditional urn, find a vessel that suits your pet and their personality
- Plant a tree, flower, or other plant to honor your pet

Imagery & Mementos

- Get a tattoo in your pet’s memory
- Purchase a memory book with prompts (one example: [And I Love You Still... A Thoughtful Guide and Remembrance Journal for Healing the Loss of a Pet](#) by Julianne Corbin, Ph.D)
- Create a scrapbook or photo album
- Frame your pet’s collar
- Create a memory box with special keepsakes
- Wear your pet’s dog tag as a necklace, or create/purchase a piece of memorial jewelry
- Create (or commission) a drawing, painting, or other art piece
- Customizable paint by numbers kit of your pet

AMC

Schwarzman
Animal Medical Center
SINCE 1910

- Print and frame special photos
- Carry around one of their toys – for good luck, comfort

Support a Cause in Your Pet's Honor

- Make a donation in your pet's memory (toys, food, and/or monetary) – *most animal shelters welcome donations of unopened food, toys, or other pet supplies*
- Volunteer at a local animal shelter or rescue

Memorialize Your Pet During the Holidays

- Send thank you cards to those who have supported you through the loss
- Keep up tradition and send holiday cards with your angel pet
- Display a stocking, ornament, or other holiday decoration in memory of your pet
- Incorporate a dedicated time to talk about memories of your pet
- Print, paint, or draw a festive photo of your pet to display around the holidays
- Display a photo of your pet in the room where you are celebrating holidays
- When gathering with loved ones, go around the group and have everyone share a favorite memory of your pet
- Visit the [Central Park Memorial Christmas Tree](#) and leave a picture of your pet

Online Memorials

- [Lap of Love Online Memorial Page](#)
- [Paw Prints From Heaven](#)
- [Paws & Remember](#)
- [Critters.com](#)
- [Letters to Pushkin | A place of comfort and healing](#) Provides a space to write a letter to your beloved pet (options include private and public)

Candle Ceremonies

- [Rainbows Bridge Monday Night Candle Ceremony](#) – Monday evenings at 9pm EST
- [Pet Loss Candle Ceremony](#) – Monday evenings at 10pm EST

Denise and Michael Kellen Institute for Surgical Care | The Cancer Institute
The Elmer and Mamdouha Bobst Hospital | Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Institute for Postgraduate Education
Caspary Research Institute | Chris and Bruce Crawford Feline Health Institute
Emilia Saint-Amand Krimendahl Institute for Trauma Care | Ann and Charles Johnson One Health Institute
Usdan Institute for Animal Health Education