

Meaningful Ways to Memorialize Your Pet

Writing

- Write an obituary
- Journal thoughts, feelings, and emotions
- Journal memories and stories
- Write a letter to your pet
- Write a letter from your pet
- 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)
- *Tip: use ChatGPT to assist with writing prompts*

Ceremonies & Memorials

- Hold a service (can be formal or informal) – if you involve those who knew your pet, invite everyone to share their favorite memories
- Attend a candlelight ceremony – virtual, at a place of worship, or light a candle yourself
 - [Rainbows Bridge Monday Night Candle Ceremony](#) – Mondays at 9pm EST
 - [Pet Loss Candle Ceremony](#) – Mondays at 10pm EST
- Post an online memorial ([Lap of Love](#), [Paw Prints From Heaven](#), [Paws & Remember](#), [Critters.com](#), [Letters to Pushkin](#))
- Post a memorial video or picture on social media
- Celebrate your pet's birthday, gotchaversary, and/or anniversary of death
- Create a small memorial in your home – can include an urn, candles, photos, flowers, special items, notes, 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 (*Note: Ashes can be harmful to plants. If you opt to plant with ashes: [Treebute](#)*)

Imagery & Mementos

- Get a tattoo in your pet's memory
- 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 jewelry
- Purchase a piece of memorial jewelry ([Love Catcher](#), [Saint Diamonds](#), [Close By Me](#))

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The Elmer and Mamdouha Bobst Hospital | Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Institute for Postgraduate Education
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- Create (or commission) a drawing, painting, or other art piece
- Customizable paint by numbers kit of your pet
- Print and frame special photos
- Carry around one of their toys – for good luck, comfort, grounding
- Customize a stuffed animal of your pet (Etsy, [Cuddle Clones](#), [FurKid Studio](#))
- *Tip: Etsy is a great resource for finding creative keepsakes!*

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, and other pet supplies*
- Volunteer at a local animal shelter or rescue
- Visit an animal sanctuary to connect with other animals (two options outside of NYC: [Woodstock Farm Sanctuary](#), [Catskill Animal Sanctuary](#))

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, invite everyone to share favorite memories of your pet

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