



# End-of-Life Preplanning Guide

When you look back at this time, it would be best if you are able to think, "I have no regrets." We don't have the ability to time travel for do-overs, so preplanning is the best kind of foresight. Please use the following as a guide.

Pet's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any "bucket list" items you want to experience with your pet? (Family photoshoot, going to the beach, going camping, eating really yummy foods, cuddling in bed....)

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ |

## Think about what you want the final moments with your pet to look like.

What does the last day with your pet look like? (Did you want to spend the day snuggling in front of a fire?)

Where will it take place?

- ☐ Vet clinic/Hospital (a safe room offering comfort and privacy. Is it large enough to accommodate everyone?)
- ☐ At home (preferred by many as a way to reduce anxiety during the last moments of life. Where in the home is your pet most relaxed?)
- ☐ Favorite place (a neutral location where your pet loved to spend time like the park, the beach, near future burial site)
- ☐ At the crematorium (where your pet will be cremated)

Who should be present?

- ☐ Family and friends
- ☐ Children (most experts agree children who want to be present for the death should be allowed)
- ☐ Other pets (most experts also agree other pets do well being present and have the best chance to understand that death has come)

When should it take place?

- ☐ Before a possible crisis – many owners choose to euthanize sooner, before a possible crisis to prevent the pet from having to endure added suffering
- ☐ Significant time of day – Is there a special time like sunset or day of month of importance worth honoring?
- ☐ When loved ones are able to attend (if your pet is not in crisis)

What if your pet passes at home? Will you:

- ☐ Bring your pet to your vet clinic for aftercare
- ☐ Call a mobile vet to arrange aftercare
- ☐ Bring your pet directly to a crematorium
- ☐ Bury your pet (special arrangements may need to be made in the winter)

## Think about aftercare and how you would like to memorialize your pet.

What kind of aftercare would you like?      Cremation      Aquamation      Burial      Other

Would a viewing and visitation be meaningful to you?

Would you like your pet to travel with or be cremated with an item? Most crematorium are licensed to cremate organic materials like treats, flowers, etc. Cremating synthetic material is not healthy for the environment

Are there memorial items you would like? (paw print, a fur clipping, ink prints, pendant necklace, etc)