

EUTHANASIA

The final act of kindness

Coping with the loss of your pet



Final act of kindness

No matter how long you have owned your pet there is one guarantee, that they will be a much loved member of your family and they will have touched your life in many ways. Whilst they may be getting old, sick, debilitated, less mobile and/or be in constant pain, knowing when is the right time to say goodbye to your pet is never easy. Rest assured if you're struggling with your decision it's because you love your pet very much and you want the very best for them.

Saying goodbye to a much-loved pet can be an emotional and heartbreaking experience and a big decision to make. However being able to offer our pets a dignified and peaceful goodbye is one of the greatest gifts we can give them. In fact the word Euthanasia literally means 'a good death'.

Euthanasia at home allows you to spend the last moments of what has been a wonderful journey together, calmly, peacefully and stress-free for both pet and owner. You are able to hold, cuddle and comfort your pet in a private, peaceful and nurturing environment, as you share your last moments together. A home euthanasia enables your pet to remain in safe, familiar surroundings, without the need to transport them to a clinical and unfamiliar environment in their final moments.

The Procedure

The Euthanasia process is designed to be as peaceful and as quick for you and your pet as possible. Before the vets arrival place your pet in a comfortable, warm and in familiar surroundings such as his or her own bed.

To ensure your cat euthanasia is a calm and stress free procedure, before the final injection a sedative will be given under the skin. The sedation should take about 5-10 minutes to have an effect, during which time you can cuddle and comfort your pet as much you wish.

Once your pet is fully sedated, the vet will place a catheter into a vein in the front leg so there is good access to administer the final injection when you are ready.

The final injection is a fast acting medication which stops the heart within seconds. Our aim is for the entire process to be as calm, pain free and nurturing as we can possibly make it for your pet and for you.



Aftercare

For many, the decision of how best to honour your pet after death can be highly emotional and involves both physical and spiritual consideration. There is nothing foolish about such considerations. Providing the right send off for your pet can go a long way toward healing the emotional wounds of the owner. We can assist with their send off.

There are three options for aftercare:

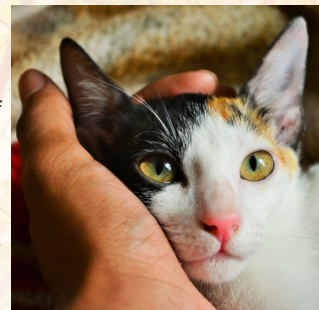
1. Home burial if you have the facilities
2. Returned individual cremation - we take your beloved pet with us for an individual cremation (guaranteed). We will deliver their ashes back to you personally in approximately 3 weeks in an urn of your choice.
3. Burial in a communal pet cemetery. Whilst it is not open to the public they plant trees on top to honour your pet.

We will bring with us a brochure from the cremation company which outlines all available options.



It's ok to grieve

After you have been through this experience you may experience mixed feelings including sadness, guilt or even anger. Please contact us if you need and we can refer you to a number of counsellors who are trained in companion animal pet loss and grief.



Cremation services

We understand that your pet is a member of the family and we know how important it is that they are treated with the respect and dignity they deserve. Once they have passed we are proud to work with Southern Cross Pet Services to provide a dignified way to honour them in their passing.

Our process is as follows:

Before leaving with the Veterinarian, your pet is allocated a unique sequential order number and paper work with relevant cremation details. It is then rechecked throughout each step of the cremation process resulting in guaranteed return of your pet's ashes.

We guarantee that the ashes returned to you are those of your cherished pet and your pet alone.

Once your pet leaves your side you can be assured that they will be conveyed with the utmost respect to our facilities.



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