

## End of Life & Aftercare Planning for Pets

## What can I expect?

It is always difficult to say goodbye to our beloved four-footed family members. During this time, we will help guide you through all the options relating to euthanasia and aftercare. The euthanasia solution is an overdose of a general anesthetic that is given intravenously, which first will cause respirations to cease, followed by the heartbeat, and provide a peaceful end to life. Please let us know if you would like to hold your pet in your lap during the procedure, or if you have any other requests. On some occasions, we may pre-place an IV catheter. Many pet owners like to give their pet a special treat prior to their final goodbye, and you are welcome to bring something along to your appointment. You may be present with your pet during the procedure, however if you choose not to, our staff will lovingly comfort and soothe your pet as if they were our own.

## Is there a reserved place for us?

Our comfort room has a soothing and home-like atmosphere. You may stay with your pet during the procedure, and for as long as you would like afterwards. There is an alternate exit door nearby, eliminating the need to walk through the reception area when you leave. We have references available for bereavement counseling.

## What are my aftercare options?

Unless you choose an at-home burial for your pet, we utilize a private, professional cremation service that offers the option of having your pet's ashes returned to you in a wooden urn. The wooden urn (pictured below) includes a customized engraved name plate. Please ask if you would like to see other urn or memorial jewelry options.

Our office will contact you when your pet's ashes are ready to be picked up. In addition to cremation ashes, you may want to memorialize your pet with a clay paw print, also pictured below.

Communal cremation with no ashes returned is also an option.



