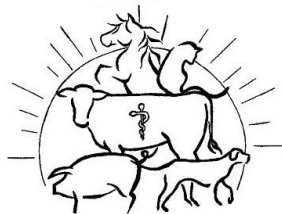


## GRIEF COUNSELING

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For many pet owners, the bond we share with our pets is often as strong or stronger than our relationships with other people. This can make it very difficult to cope with the loss when a pet dies. There are many resources available for grieving pet owners, a few of which are listed below:

- Center for Psychiatric Health  
1515 W Walnut Street, Jacksonville, IL  
(217)245-7275  
\*William R Tennill, Clinical Social Worker  
\*Russell Taylor, Clinical Psychologist  
\*Julie Wolf Tennill, Clinical Social Worker  
\*William G. Loveland, Therapist  
\*Tracy Stucker, Child Therapist
- ASPCA Pet Loss Hotline  
877-474-3310
- University of Illinois C.A.R.E. Pet Loss Helpline  
877-394-CARE (2273)  
<http://vetmed.illinois.edu/CARE/online.html>
- Association for Pet Loss & Bereavement  
<http://www.apln.org>
- Cornell University Pet Loss Support Hotline 607-253-3932
- Animal Love and Loss Network  
<http://www.alln.org>
- Explaining Pet Death to Children  
<http://vetmed.illinois.edu/petcolumns/showarticle.cfm?id=112>
- University of Florida Pet Grief Support Hotline  
352-392-4700 Ext. 4080  
[http://neuro.vetmed.ufl.edu/alt\\_med/petgrief/](http://neuro.vetmed.ufl.edu/alt_med/petgrief/)



### Rainbow Bridge

Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge.

When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge. There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of food, water and sunshine, and our friends are warm and comfortable.

All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor. Those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by. The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing; they each miss someone very special to them, who had to be left behind.

They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. His bright eyes are intent. His eager body quivers. Suddenly he begins to run from the group, flying over the green grass, his legs carrying him faster and faster.

You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart.

Then you cross Rainbow Bridge together, never to be separated again.

### Lincoln Land Animal Clinic

1150 Tendick Lane  
Jacksonville, IL 62650

Phone: 217-245-9508  
Fax: 217-245-0380

## Lincoln Land Animal Clinic, Ltd.

## EUTHANASIA & CREMATION



**217-245-9508**



# EUTHANASIA INFORMATION AND OPTIONS

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## WHAT EUTHANASIA IS

EUTHANASIA IS DEFINED AS A “KIND DEATH” AND IN VETERINARY MEDICINE IS THE ACT OF ENDING AN ANIMAL’S LIFE WITH COMPASSION AND DIGNITY.

## HOW EUTHANASIA IS PERFORMED HERE

At Lincoln Land Animal Clinic we strive to make the experience as painless as possible to the pet. First we inject the pet with a sedative to make them fall asleep. Then we may shave a small patch of fur off a leg and dampen the area with alcohol to make the vein more visible. The euthanasia solution is injected directly into the vein and the pet generally passes away within a few minutes. This is a very peaceful process and the kindest way we know to say goodbye to our beloved friends.

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## IS IT TIME?

The decision regarding the euthanasia of a beloved pet may be the most difficult decision one makes in one’s entire life; obviously the consequences are irrevocable. Whatever the decision is, it should be one that you can always look back upon and know that the best decision was made and that you would make the same decision over again in the same circumstances.

So how do you know if it is time? There are several criteria used in evaluating the quality of life and you should consider them carefully.

- Is your pet eating? Quality of life involves eating or at least interest in food. An animal that is hungry has vitality that must be considered, though this is not the only consideration.
- Is your pet comfortable? Pets should be free of debilitating pains, cramps, aches, or even the psychological pain that comes from the development of incontinence in an animal who has been housebroken for an entire life.
- Does the pet still enjoy favorite activities? The elderly pet does not necessarily need to continue chasing balls or jumping after discs but he should enjoy sleeping comfortably, favorite resting spots, the company of family, etc. You know your pet better than any one and only you can truly answer these questions.

## SHOULD I BE PRESENT?

This is a very personal decision. We welcome clients during the process however we understand that many do not feel comfortable witnessing the death of a pet.

## WHAT HAPPENS TO MY PET AFTER EUTHANASIA?

If you live outside the city limits you can bring your pet home to bury. Private services can sometimes be arranged through a local funeral home.

Another option is to send your pet’s remains to be cremated. There is an extra charge for this service. Three cremation choices are available:

- Group Cremation: Your pet is cremated with the remains of other pets and the ashes are not returned to you.
  - Companion Animal Cremation: Your pet is cremated in a separate compartment of a large crematorium at the same time as other pets. The ashes are returned to you in two to three weeks.
  - VIP Cremation: Your pet is cremated in a small individual crematorium and is the only pet cremated at that time. The ashes are returned to you in two to three weeks.
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