

## What is Pet Hospice?

The Celtic translation for the word “hospice” means “Soul friend”.

For decades, the hospice concept has been utilized for individuals desiring palliative end-of-life care. For many families, upon learning from a physician that a loved one is suffering from an illness or disease for which there is no cure, hospice care becomes the next step to assure that our family member is kept comfortable and is treated with dignity and respect throughout the dying process.

This same type of respectful end-of-life care is now available for your beloved pet family members.

Hospice allows you, the pet parent the ability to keep your trusted friend comfortable in their own home, in familiar surroundings, with the people that have loved and cared for him or her throughout their life.

The mission of hospice care is to assure your faithful companion is comfortable and pain-free for as long as they can maintain their quality-of-life. Hospice care allows your pet to enjoy the last days of life in familiar surroundings in the company of loved ones. Furthermore, it allows the family to have more time with their pet truly allowing a family to “go that extra mile” for the care of their dying friend.



*Beyond the Rainbow Pet Hospice & Memorial Center* believes that in your pets’ final transition, you are truly a “Soul friend”. Our commitment to you is to be by your side in this journey, helping you in the following ways:

- ❖ Being with you to formulate a plan for this journey. Because each pet is unique, each of the plans is uniquely built to suit your needs.
- ❖ Teaching you the signs to look for as your companion passes from one stage to the next in the final journey.
- ❖ By providing veterinarians and trained staff to care for your pet in their own comfortable surroundings, thereby avoiding difficult and often painful transport to a clinic.
- ❖ Daily phone calls and/or home visits to check in on you and your beloved companion and monitor changes.
- ❖ Home evaluations to see what adjustments can be made for the pets comfort and day-to-day activities.
- ❖ Providing to you, the education and support in end-of-life care, symptoms and pain management.
- ❖ Making available to you professionally trained medical pet sitters that can stay with your pet when you need to be away from home.
- ❖ A staff of counselors and clergy, available to talk with you anytime, by phone or in your home.
- ❖ Providing 24-hour support when you have questions, concerns or fears
- ❖ If desired, alternative treatments are also available, such as holistic massage, Reiki, acupuncture, flower essence and other holistic remedies

Three components make up the hospice philosophy:

Medical care includes recognizing pain and other symptoms, anticipating changes and complications, administering medications and other remedies to keep your pet comfortable and happy. Monitoring your pet’s quality of life will protect him from unnecessary suffering and spare you some of the anguish when facing this significant loss.

Nursing care includes administering medications, monitoring vital signs and changes in your pets’ condition and offering advice on modifications to make your pet more comfortable.

Support for the family means providing emotional and empathetic support, and providing information on coping with the changes that are occurring. As painful as this process is, you will find that you will bond in a way that you never thought possible with your pet, an opportunity to unconditionally return the love that they so unconditionally gave to you. You will have inner peace knowing that, to animals, dying is as much a part of life as birth, and you loved them enough to share this process with them.

We help you prepare for the final good-byes by planning and conducting visitations and memorial services and arranging cremation or burial choices, as you desire.

## OUR PHILOSOPHY

The anticipated death of a beloved pet is a difficult and traumatic time in the life of a pet parent.

As pet owners, trained hospice providers and licensed funeral directors, we understand that pet parents experience the same intense grief and sense of loss that occurs when a human member of the family dies.

Our mission is to provide a warm, supportive and compassionate end-of-life experience for you and your pet and provide a way for your family and friends to celebrate the life and establish the significance of your best friend.

We pledge that we will help you find a way to say goodbye that will honor your family member and build wonderful memories that will eventually replace the darkness of grief.

We will always treat your pet like we treat our own; with love, dignity and respect.



*"Birth is a Beginning, and Death a Destination,  
but Life is a Journey" Rabbi Gerald J. Klein*



*Those we hold most dear never truly leave us.  
They live on in kindness they showed and the  
love they brought into our lives."*

## About the founders:



Kate Moore and Terry Branson are licensed funeral directors who owned and operated human funeral homes in the Dallas-Fort Worth area from 1997 - 2008. They are pet owners and pet lovers who believe that our companion animals deserve the same dignity and respect in death as do their human caregivers.

Their philosophy is that "Life is a Journey" and that each day should be lived to the fullest, with no regrets.

They are both active members of 4PAWS, an animal adoption organization in Benbrook, Texas; members of the Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice; the International Association for Animal Hospice and Palliative Care; and the Pet Loss Professional Alliance. Terry received his Bachelors Degree from Chapman University in Psychology and continued his Masters work in a clinical setting.

## Hospice



*They are with us for a little while, but  
leave their paw prints on our hearts  
forever.*

*Serving the DFW metroplex areas*

**817 249-7700 or 877.630.PETS**

**TexasPetHospice.com**

**info@texaspethospice.com**