

PREPARATION FOR EUTHANASIA

Am I Doing the Right Thing?

Euthanasia is a difficult, yet often necessary, decision that many pet owners are faced with. When a beloved pet is in chronic discomfort due to advanced age or illness, euthanasia provides a painless alternative to unnecessary suffering. It is during this time that we need to express our love for them and help insure their last moments are peaceful.

Nature or Euthanasia?

Everyone hopes that their treasured pet will slip away while curled up asleep in their favorite bed. Most times however, nature is not that kind and we are left to decide for them. The decision to euthanize is ultimately yours but remember that the veterinarians and their staff entered into this profession because of their love for animals. They can help answer your questions and guide you through this difficult time.

Do I Need an Appointment?

We prefer to see all of our patients by appointment and will do our best to work you and your pet into our schedule as quickly as possible. This allows us to minimize your time waiting to be seen by one of our doctors.

Will I be Present for the Procedure?

Although it is a comfort to your pet to have you near, we do not require you to stay after your consultation with the doctor. Of course, if you choose to stay, you may pet your companion and speak kind words to help them go with courage and love.

Burial or Cremation?

It is your choice on how your beloved pet is laid to rest. Some of our clients choose to take their pet home for burial, while others who are unable to do that choose cremation. Cremation is now a service that we offer to our clients when burial is not an option. We will ensure that your pet is treated

with compassion and respect throughout the cremation process. You may also choose to have your pet's ashes returned to you. Just let one of our staff members know your preference at the time of your appointment.

We Understand

All of us at High Point Animal Hospital have pets and we have all lost pets. We understand that this is a choice that nobody wants to have to make. But when the time comes, we need to place our love for our pets over our need for them. We are here for you and your companions to help your last moments be peaceful and loving.

A Dog's Plea

Treat me kindly, my beloved friend, for no heart in all the world is more grateful for kindness than the loving heart of me.

Do not break my spirit with a stick, for though I should lick your hand between blows, your patience and understanding will more quickly teach me the things you would have me learn.

Speak to me often, for your voice is the world's sweetest music, as you must know by the fierce wagging of my tail when your footsteps fall upon my waiting ears.

Please take me inside when it is cold and wet, for I am a domesticated animal, no longer accustomed to bitter elements. I ask no greater glory than the privilege of sitting at your feet beside the hearth.

Keep a pan filled with fresh water, for I cannot tell you when I suffer thirst.

Feed me clean food that I may stay well to romp and play and do your bidding, to walk by your side, and stand ready, willing, and able to protect you with my life, should your life be in danger.

And, my friend, when I am very old and I no longer enjoy good health, hearing and sight, do not make heroic efforts to keep me going. I am not having any fun. Please see that my trusting life is taken gently. I shall leave this earth knowing with the last breath I draw that my fate was always in your hands.