

## **I'm Still Here**

*Friend, please don't mourn for me,  
I'm still here, though you don't see.  
I'm right by your side each night and day,  
And within your heart I long to stay.*

*My body is gone but I'm always near,  
I'm everything you feel, see or hear.  
My spirit is free, but I'll never depart,  
As long as you keep me alive in your heart.*

*I'll never wander out of your sight.  
I'm the brightest star on a summer night.  
I'll never be beyond your reach.  
I'm the warm moist sand when you're at the beach.*

*I'm the colorful leaves when fall comes around,  
And the pure white snow that blankets the ground.  
I'm the beautiful flowers of which you're so fond,  
The clear cool water in a quiet pond.*

*I'm the first bright blossom you'll see in the spring,  
The first warm raindrop that April will bring.  
I'm the first ray of light when the sun starts to shine,  
And you'll see that the face in the moon is mine.*

*When you start thinking there's no one to love you,  
You can talk to me through the Lord above you.  
I'll whisper my answer through the leaves on the trees,  
And you'll feel my presence in the soft summer breeze.*

*I'm the hot salty tears that flow when you weep,  
And the beautiful dreams that come while you sleep.  
I'm the smile you see on a baby's face.  
Just look for me, friend, I'm everyplace!*

*-Author Unknown*

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# *Cremation as an Option*

*Coping with the loss of a pet can be extremely difficult.  
There are many decisions to be made, all of which can  
seem daunting during this time of grief and sadness.*

*The information in this pamphlet should help ease your  
concerns about cremation and assist you in making an  
informed decision.*



### ***What happens to my pet after euthanasia?***

If you choose to have your pet cremated, his/her body will be taken to our state-of-the-art crematorium where it will be kept until it is cremated. We offer the following options for cremation:

#### **Cremation With Ashes Returned:**

If selected, your pet will be separated from other animals in the cremation chamber so that the ashes can be collected and returned to you.

#### **Cremation Without Ashes Returned:**

If selected, your pet will be cremated with other pets and their collective ashes will be disposed of appropriately. You will not receive any ashes back.

### ***Am I really getting my pet's ashes back?***

Each cremation is carefully logged and tracked through every step of the process. This allows you to rest assured that if you select to have your pet's ashes returned, the ashes you receive back are those of your own pet.

### ***How long does it take to get my pet's ashes back?***

It can take up to two weeks for you to receive the ashes, although it generally takes less time than that. The ashes will be returned to the hospital that helped you facilitate your pet's cremation.

### ***What else should I know about cremation?***

Our state-of-the-art machine is the same quality used for humans. The machine contains numerous pollution control devices, which makes the process more environmentally friendly.

### ***What happens to my pet's surgically implanted devices?***

Some of these items will melt and become integrated into the ashes. Those that do not melt are left in the ashes.

### ***What do the ashes look like?***

Your pet's ashes will resemble a fine grey/white powder.

### ***What will I receive after the cremation?***

Your pet's ashes will be returned to you in a decorative wooden urn, which comes in sizes small (most common) to extra large.



*Clockwise from upper-right corner: large, small, medium, extra large*

### ***Special Requests/Accommodations***

We are often asked by owners to cremate a special blanket or toy with a pet, to collect hair clippings or to transfer the ashes of a pet to a special container. We are happy to do any of these things for you. If you have a special request, please do not hesitate to ask us. We will do our best to accommodate you.

### ***What if I have more questions after I leave the hospital?***

Please direct any questions and/or concerns to the hospital that helped you facilitate the cremation process. They will be able to speak directly with the crematorium on your behalf.