

The Black Ribbon Programs (C)

Were Developed By

Highlander Counselling and Mediation

Edmonton and Spruce Grove, Alberta



A  
Symbol of Your Loss



When someone you love dies there are ceremonies and rituals that can be used to assist with your grief. The transition to life without the loved person is helped by other members of the community who participate with you in the loss and in your transition of the relationship with the lost person to a loved memory. Funerals and other rituals help this process.

When a loved pet dies there are no such traditions or rituals. Society has not given us symbols that we can use to express our grief and to have it acknowledged by others. There are no common rituals of loss associated with our loved pets.

Please accept this Rainbow Ribbon pin as a symbol which, when worn, might serve that purpose. Like the Black Ribbon Pin often worn when a loved person dies, you may choose to keep the Rainbow Pin as a touchstone, a remembrance of your pet, or you may wear it to tell others of your loss which may allow you the opportunity to tell them of the special bond between you and your loved pet.

I am truly sorry for your loss.

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....

Author unknown...