

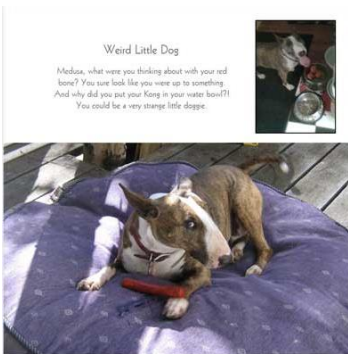


# Ways to Memorialize a Pet

While cherished memories remain in our hearts forever, sometimes people like a physical item to memorialize a beloved pet. Below are just a few ideas of things to buy or do, from artwork to jewelry to permanent ink. There are countless websites where you can order items, from chain stores to Etsy shops.

## Photographic memories

- There are many things that can be done with the doubtless many pictures you have of your pet. Many different companies print a photo book that you can fill with images, as well as stories – funny things he did, all her many nicknames or who his favorite furry friends were.



- You can also go smaller scale and get a personalized frame for your absolutely favorite photo. Either way, it can be customized to make it truly a one-of-a-kind item – just like your pet.

- Consider a customized mug, pillow, or blanket with a photo. It's not the same as holding the real deal, but it may give you a bit of comfort.

## Artwork in various mediums

- Urns are very common, often in the form of a lovely vase or wooden box. Over the years it has become more common to keep the ashes of a beloved pet, to create different memorial items, such as jewelry, or even custom artwork.
- Commission a painting of your pet.
- Another form of remembrance is a custom-made stuffed animal made in your pet's likeness.\*



## ♥ marks the spot

- Decorate a dedicated area in your home with photos, ID tags, or favorite toys. You can also get a paw print mold and display that as part of the tribute.
- That special spot can also be outdoors. Some garden options include a marker in the shape of your



pet to put under a favorite sunning spot, or perhaps a stepping stone with the name of your pet with its likeness engraved. Another option is a memorial stone dedicated to all your pets that have crossed the Rainbow Bridge. If your garden is large enough, you could include a bench or a statue of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals, as a place to sit and reminisce about your pet.



## Wearable remembrances

- There are many different ways jewelry can include part of your pet. Technology now makes it possible to turn ashes into a diamond. Older options include creating jewelry with your cat's nose or paw print on it or wearing a locket with your dog's photo or a tuft of fur, perhaps even engraved with his name.
- This isn't for everyone, but another way to memorialize a pet is perhaps the ultimate artwork – a tattoo. The ink can include portraits, paw prints, or your pet's name.



\* Photo courtesy Facci Designs