

In Loving Memory
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On March 14, we lost another cherished member of our family. We had our Tipper-cat, who was between 18 and 19 years old, put to sleep at our home. She had been in fragile health for about a year. Finally her body just gave out, she became very weak, and we knew it was time to say goodbye.

Tipper was without a doubt the sweetest cat we think ever lived. She loved to be held and petted, loved to lay on our chests at night, and loved to lay outside in the sunshine. She was one of those rare, perfect pets who never did a single thing to cause any problems, and was always there to love and be loved.

More than that, Tipper was a connection to the past. Tipper was the last of Suzanne's family of pets she already had when she married Dan. She was our link to those other animals we loved, so we are not only grieving Tipper's death, but re-grieving those other losses as well.

Suzanne found Tipper at the farm of her former in-laws with a severely injured leg that had to be amputated. She brought her home, with a vow to "find her a good home". Obviously that home we found was ours.

Tipper was rescued not once, but twice, as we almost lost her a year ago when her kidneys began to fail. Thanks to our veterinarians, who supported us giving Tipper daily fluid supplements in her skin, we were able to buy almost a year of quality time with her.

Tipper's death has left a huge hole in our lives. She spent most of her time recently in our bedroom, sleeping on her own heating pad. It's hard to enter the room and not see her lying in that spot.

On the good side, our other pets can now come into the bedroom so they must think they've died and gone to heaven too! We think Tipper is now with the other pets we have loved and lost, and they are all waiting for us at the Rainbow Bridge, a mythical place just outside of heaven.

We are grateful to our veterinarians and their staff for putting Tipper to sleep at home. She died in familiar surroundings, without the stress of a car ride. So to our sweet Tipper-cat, we love you and we'll miss you always.