

My Butterfly

Why, O why do butterflies fly
Why, O why do all people die
Why, O why must we all have to cry
I guess it's because we wonder why

No one stays around forever
No matter how we fall
I think that's why we wonder why
Some day we'll all be called

I had a dog named Nickie Girl
I loved her with all my heart
She lived with me for sixteen years
I thought we'd never part

Then one day before the summer was over
She took her last deep breath
My Nickie Girl, My Nickie Girl
I'll love you even after death

One day we'll all meet in the great blue sky
The time will come when we all have to say
Good bye, good bye, good bye

The above poem was authored by plot-holder, Richard Gamba. His terrier-mix, Nickie, was buried at Hartsdale on September 2, 2006. Mr. Gamba is an actor who has appeared in the movies and television.

Founder of Canine Orphanage Interred at Hartsdale

Sandra Rindner of New York City, who founded an orphanage for dogs called "Miss Rumples' Orphanage for Small Dogs," died on July 3, 2006. Her cremated remains were buried at the Hartsdale Pet Cemetery on July 22, 2006 along with the cremated remains of four canine friends named Savannah, Delilah, Veronica and Miss Rumples, as well as one feline friend named Buzby.

An extraordinary woman who dedicated much of her life to the well-being of animals, Sandy was devoted to the welfare and placement of abandoned small breed dogs, working tirelessly to save each little orphan. The animals in her orphanage were placed in volunteer foster homes while she sought loving, permanent homes for them. She leaves a legacy of caring and compassion.

Some 30 friends and family members attended the service, many of whom gave a short eulogy for Ms. Rindner. Among those in attendance were New York State Senator, Thomas K. Duane of the 29th State Senatorial District.

Burial of human cremated remains at Hartsdale has become more common over the last decade. The Cemetery has interred approximately 700 human cremated remains to date.

For more information about Miss Rumples Orphanage for Small Dogs or to make a donation please visit their website at www.missrumplesorphanage.com.

War Dog Celebration Features *The Good Dog Foundation*



Peg Munves and her Good Dog, "Jumpin' Jazz" are pictured here with 6-year-old, Hallie Sexton at the 2006 annual War Dog Memorial in June. Photo by Moy Wong

The annual War Dog Celebration, held on June 11, 2006, featured keynote speaker Peg Munves of the animal assisted therapy organization, The Good Dog Foundation. Ms. Munves and her Good Dog, a yellow Labrador named "Jumpin' Jazz" visit homebound seniors and older friends who live at the Atria Senior Living Residence in Riverdale. In addition to competing in both APDT and American Kennel Club Rally, Peg and Jazz also participate in local educational outreach events promoting therapy dog work and the benefits and fun of training companion dogs.

Peg has been actively working her dogs as professional models/actors for print and television since 1992. Jumpin' Jazz can be seen with Ashley Judd in the campaign for American Beauty Cosmetics and Kohl's, on the national packaging for OraVet dental products, at GAP Kids, and in Lands' End catalogues. Both have been featured on "The Today Show" and other national television programs. For more information visit their website at www.thegooddogfoundation.org

Georgie Laid To Rest In Hartsdale

Georgie, a shepherd-mix who was adopted by Kathy Maher from Shelter Pet Alliance was buried at Hartsdale Pet Cemetery on October 6, 2006. He was 12 years old. Jill Potter, president of Shelter Pet Alliance, attended the funeral along with volunteers from the Yonkers Animal Shelter.

Plot-holder, Kathy Maher, had come to our Pet Memorial Day Ceremony in 2004 with a heavy heart to honor the memory of her beloved doberman of 15 years, Jessie James. Georgie was a 10-year-old canine who had come to participate in the pet adoption event being held the same day after spending more than 3 years living in a cage at the Yonkers Animal Shelter. He was loved by the workers but considered an unlikely candidate for adoption due to his advanced age. Kathy's selfless act of compassion ensured that he would not spend his last years in the shelter.

Following his burial, Kathy said, "I miss Georgie every day. He brought tremendous happiness into my life. I only wish we had had more time together." Now Georgie and Jesse James rest together in the same grave.

In another selfless act of compassion, Kathy opened her heart and her home to another elderly canine by adopting a German Shepherd named Mountain. Sadly, however, Mountain died in November after spending only one month together. Like her other pets, Mountain is buried in Hartsdale. Although sad, Kathy remarked that she felt good about being able to provide Mountain with love, companionship and happiness, even if it was only for a short period of time.



Georgie's funeral. Pictured from left to right are: Arty McGriff, Jill Potter (Shelter Pet Alliance), Brenda Maher, Fran LeClerc, and Kathy Maher

Shelter Pet Alliance A Regular Feature At Hartsdale Events

After years of volunteer work at animal shelters founders Jill Potter and Allison Roesser, established Shelter Pet Alliance in 2001. Shelter Pet Alliance is a not-for-profit organization that assists animals in shelters throughout the United States by promoting adoptions, and ensuring humane housing conditions and proper care.

One of the best ways to help shelter animals find homes is to get them out of the shelter and into the community. To help facilitate this goal, Shelter Pet Alliance has partnered with Hartsdale Pet Cemetery since 2002 to organize adoption events at our annual War Dog Celebration and Pet Memorial Day events. The Peaceable Kingdom in Hartsdale has long been a place where the bonds of unconditional love between humans and animals are honored and remembered and it is now also a place where new bonds begin. These highly successful events have placed over 150 needy dogs and cats into permanent loving homes. We have seen amazing acts of compassion and love by some of our plot-holders at these adoptions. Perhaps the most notable is Kathy Maher, who adopted "Georgie," a 10-year-old shepherd mix so that he would not spend his last years in a shelter. For more information about this touching story please read the article about "Georgie" in this issue.

Currently, Shelter Pet Alliance is working to raise funds for a new program to increase adoptions of sheltered dogs by providing shelters in need with professional trainers. These trainers will work with dogs whose behaviors may be preventing them from finding the loving and permanent home they deserve. A professional trainer can help improve their prospects for permanent adoption.

There are millions of homeless dogs and cats in shelters in the United States who need homes. Shelter Pet Alliance is committed to giving them a chance to leave their isolated life in a cage for a life of happiness, love and companionship. For more information or to make a donation please visit their website, www.shelterpetalliance.org or call (914)656-5879.

In The Mail - Dated July 13, 2006

"I would like to thank you for the service we received recently in burying our cat, who we decided to name, Angel. Angel was found on the street and after consulting with the veterinarian, we decided to euthanize him and have him buried in the Hartsdale Pet Cemetery. This was very difficult but your staff really made sure that all our wishes were met."

