

## Heaven at Home Aftercare

The Heaven at Home team's care and dedication to your pet does not end when you say goodbye. We offer water-based cremation, memorial keepsakes, and pet loss grief resources to the families we serve. We also work with select veterinary practices to make these services available to their clients. We want to give families the opportunity to choose a gentle, environmentally-friendly option to honor their pet. Water-based cremation is an emerging form of body care that is gentler to the environment. Your beloved pet will be in our compassionate and expert care and will be handled respectfully, with the same level of care we would give our own fur-family members.



## A Word from Our Founder

As West Michigan's first locally-owned provider of home pet hospice and euthanasia, I've been honored to serve thousands of families together with my wonderful team. Just as we've helped families make difficult end-of-life decisions, our Aftercare Center is designed to help grieving pet parents get through a difficult time and honor their bond while protecting the planet.

*Dr. Laurie Brush*



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*Heaven at Home*





## What Is Aquamation?

Pet aquamation is the water-based alternative to conventional pet cremation. Also known as "Water Cremation," the process is based on the natural decay that a body undergoes when buried in the ground. A combination of warmed, gently flowing water and alkalinity (95% water + %5 Alkali) is used to accelerate the natural course of time. At the end of the process, the body has been returned to its natural form in water. Similar to flame cremation, the only solid remains are the mineral ash of the bones. The ash remaining is a light sage color as it retains more minerals, is clean, and without carbon discoloration (blackening). Water-based cremation generates a sterile, EPA neutral liquid solution of amino acids, peptides, sugars, and soap that is suitable for re-release into the water system. Aquamation offers greater than 90% energy savings compared to flame cremation, with 1/10th of the carbon footprint. There are no direct emissions of harmful greenhouse gases or mercury to the atmosphere. It's a gentle, natural, environmentally-sensitive way to manage your companion's remains.



## Is the Process Dignified?

Yes! We do not place pets into freezers or routinely use body bags. We have a custom-designed cool room with an eternal flame where we are able to keep pets temporarily. Small pets are transported and kept in baskets and larger pets on stretchers, both wrapped lovingly in blankets, and kept tucked in until the cremation process begins.

## Aftercare Service Options:

The Heaven at Home Aftercare team helps veterinary clinics and private individuals choose an environmentally-friendly and dignified process, which may include the following options:

Scheduled collection  
Individual or Community Aquamation  
Memorial paw print\*  
Selection of Urns\*  
Selection of Keepsakes\*  
Pet Loss Grief Support  
Referral

### Individual Aquamation

Separate chambers within our Aquamation equipment offer a barrier among individual pets. Metal identification tags are assigned to each pet upon entrance to our center in order to track their progress and ensure that each pet is returned home to their family. If you have chosen Individual Aquamation for your pet, your pet's ashes will be returned to you in an urn of your choice, with a lock of fur, an ink nose print (or a paw print if selected\*) and Certificate of Aquamation in a beautifully arranged package, which can be picked up at our center, or delivered/mailed to you for an additional fee.

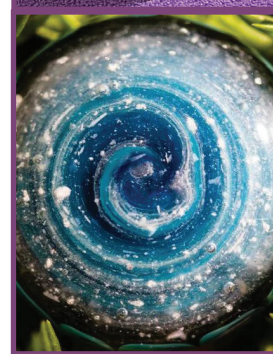
### Communal Aquamation

Communal Aquamation means the ashes will not be returned to families. The ashes of pets cremated together in a Communal cremation are respectfully returned to Mother Earth in beautiful, private garden amidst a natural setting.

\* Add-ons to basic Aquamation package.

## Memorialize Your Bond

Pet loss grief is real and research shows that memorialization plays a key role in healthy healing. We work with a variety of partners to bring our pet families beautiful options to keep their loyal companion's remains near and dear. This includes:



- Paw Prints
- Wood Urns
- Metal Urns
- Glass Urns
- Keepsake Jewelry
- Glass Sculptures
- Suncatchers
- Touchstones

We also invite families to share memories online in our Memorial section.

## Pet Loss Grief

Whether you need a referral to a private grief counselor or would benefit from a Pet Loss Grief Support Group, we're here to help. Please reach out in confidence or download our Grief Support Packet from our website.

Learn More:

[www.PetHospiceVet.com/Resources](http://www.PetHospiceVet.com/Resources)  
[www.PetHospiceVet.com/Spirit-Pieces](http://www.PetHospiceVet.com/Spirit-Pieces)