

“TREVOR”

February 24th 2008

Once again BrightHaven reaches the end of another incredible era. Just three short weeks ago at the grand old age of 26 years, Trevor told us of his impending demise and invited us to join him on his journey. As so many old souls before him this huge old lover boy knew his path well and has spent his last days basking in the love of his family – both humans and animals, aided by, a few well chosen homeopathic remedies from his Dr Chris, and ever flowing Reiki. He died so peacefully just a little after 430am today.



Trevor has had a “dicky heart” as we say in England for years and, after a little more than ten years with us it is now his time to leave. We all know that.

Trevor came to BH in 1998 from New York after his beloved owner died and subsequently his rescue lady fell upon hard times. She decided to come to California to find her pot of gold ..and we all know the ending to that story!! Trevor ended up in a shelter with his family and BH agreed to take the elders of the group and so friends, Nigel, Millie and Meri came to live with us too. Trevor sadly for us joined them today.



And so my story begins.

It has been terribly hard to say fare- well to this much adored man, but so charming and special to see the other animals gathering to return some of the love and compassion he has shown to so many others over the years. Although his body was exhausted and worn out, his spirit remained strong and he basked in the deep love and reverence shown to him by the BrightHaven family.

Here you see him wrapping his huge old body round the tiny Ms Emily as she lay dying.....



And here below he is helping new boy dog Joey feel more at home in his new family surroundings and in his brand new chariot (well wheelchair to some!!)



Many BrightHaven friends, mostly ladies (!!) will lose a considerable chunk of their hearts as this big old lover boy leaves today and Trevor wanted me to make special mention of his Auntie's Lisa and Lee, who could not be with him here in Northern California today.

For the last days we have seen the tables turned as others have shown their love for this wonderful man. As Trevor began his journey he first turned to the BrightHaven box of healing crystals for inspiration, as well as their energy and support – with ever watchful Joey close by!

And so as Trevor drew closer and closer to his death we, yet again saw so many touching sights and there are photographs too numerous to show, but here are just a few to illustrate the beauty of Trevor's transition.

In those last days, Trev remained strong in mind, but sadly not body. The love and compassion shown by Gingi, in particular, who remained with him both by night and day for the last three weeks has been truly incredible.

Gingi has sat or lain close at all times and has groomed his friend often to help him retain his beauty and dignified personae.

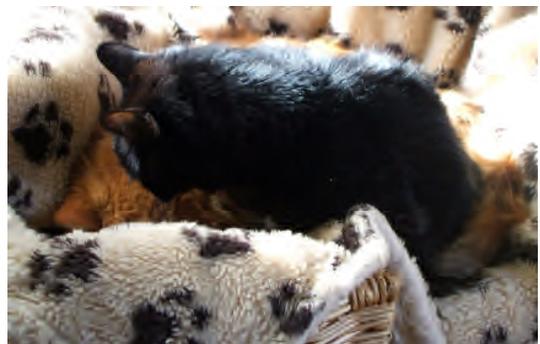
Gingi was joined by Beauregard after his short rest after his own long vigil for Ollie, and then the two of them shared the grooming duties, joined occasionally by dear Barney, who did his best!!

In the last few days Trevor's team comprised Gingi, Beau, Barney, Joey, Simon and dear Furbee and here below are some of the photographs we took during that special time.

Dear Barney takes his grooming duties very seriously and almost squashed poor Trevor to death as he groomed him avidly from top to toe!!

Many of you will know that very often the dying will often seek solace and respite with Furbee, our sweet and gentle brain damaged young man.

Here is Trevor, after climbing into bed to bury his face in Furbee's soft fur.



Friends together until the end!

Here is Gingi curled up on watch at Trevor's side as his old friend takes a nap during his journey.



A group shot of Trevor with Beauregard, Gingi and Simon all resting close by in case needed.



A beautiful moment alone!



A beautiful moment with Gail



And last but not least a beautiful memory of dinner in the BrightHaven kitchen with a few of his favorite chums!





The last several days showed us no changes. Trevor's breathing perhaps began to seem even a little easier and everyone was still gathered close. Two days ago Trevor realized he could no longer take food – He tried a few licks and then took water instead. Yesterday it was the same story and then we knew that time was short.



Then his feline caregivers, Gingi, Beauregard, Vancouver and Simon left him then to stay at a distance. Farewells had been said and their job was done: They were tired and weary.

Did Trevor dismiss them? – or was it the other way around?

We have seen this pattern so often that we knew our turn had come; it was finally time for us to be close and to say our own final goodbyes.

Yesterday morning Trevor had a final burst of energy and spent some of the morning saying a final farewell as he visited different rooms in the house. It was a slow, gentle and dignified process, after which he returned, exhausted, to his chosen place in the hallway to rest peacefully.

Rest he did – and so peacefully and contentedly all day that we wondered if he was indeed going to leave.



Richard, Fray and I had taken turns each night for weeks, to stay close to Trevor and his friends, not wishing to leave at all, but needing to take some rest from time to time. Last night was no exception and Trevor chose Richard's watch in the early morning hours to begin his departure.

Richard quickly awoke us and he, Fray and I gathered on the couch to bid farewell to this splendid chap who never asked for more than love. I held him close in my arms and the tears fell as within just minutes Trevor gave a sigh and easily left his body.



Today is a day for rest, memories and such celebration of this special being.

By the way did I ever tell you of the day, several years ago, when Blanca really "saw" his wings? An angel you might ask? – indeed, is my answer, for surely he was.



"Make yourself familiar with the angels, and behold them frequently in spirit; for without being seen, they are present with you."

St. Francis De Sales

