

## QUALITY OF LIFE ASSESSMENT



- Deciding to euthanize your companion animal may be one of the most difficult decisions you ever make.
- Well-loved pets are euthanized to minimize unnecessary suffering.
- The quality of animals' lives is defined by their overall physical and mental well-being, not just one aspect of their lives.

**Sky Tails.com**The Last Act of Love

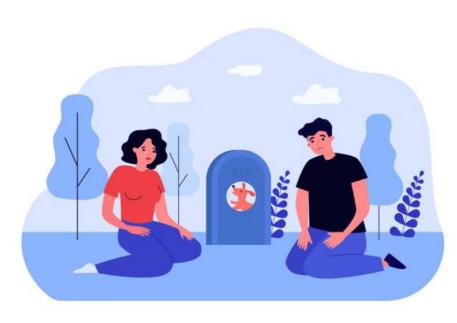
## QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF

- What is the most important thing when considering my pet's end-of-life treatment?
- What are my thoughts about euthanasia?
- Would I Consider Euthanasia if the following were true?
  - Feeling pain? Starts to experience seizures?
  - Can no longer urinate and/or defecate?
  - Has become uncontrollably violent or is unsafe to others?
  - Has stopped eating?
  - Is no longer acting normally?





## HOW DO I KNOW WHEN IT IS TIME?



 Use our PG's s tools. They may aid you in making the decision to euthanize.

Enlist the help of one of our veterinarians.

While our veterinarian cannot make the decision for you, it is helpful for him/her to know that you are considering euthanasia.

Remember how your pet looked and behaved prior to the illness. Sometimes changes are gradual, and therefore hard to recognize. Look at photos or videos of your pet from before the illness.

Mark good and bad days on a calendar. This could be as simple as a happy or sad face for good or bad. If the bad days start to outweigh the good, it may be time to discuss euthanasia.

 Write a concrete list of three to five things your pet likes to do. When your pet is no longer able to enjoy these things, it may be time to discuss euthanasia.

**SkyTails.com**The Last Act of Love

## SKY TAILS' OLIALITY OF LIFE ASSESSMENT

	ONT IMILO QUALI	II OI EIL MOOLOOME	-1 1 1
Social Functio	ns Health	Mental Health	Natural Functions
Desire to be with family	the No changes in breathing or panting patterns	Enjoys normal play activities	Appetite has stayed the
Responds to Pet parent's presence Wants to interact the same way as before  Demeanor / Beha is the same as it where?	No outward signs of pain (excessive panting, pacing, and whining are most commonly seen)	Still dislikes the same thing (i.e., still hates the mailman = 0, or doesn't bark at the mailman anymore = 2)  No outward signs of stress or anxiety  Does not seem confused or apathetic  sleeping activity is normal, no changes seen	Drinking has stayed the same, Normal urination habits  Normal bowel movement habits  Ability to ambulate (walk around) has stayed the same
	Survey Date: Weight: Total Score:	In nighttime routine  Score Each Subsection on So (1) Agree with Statement (2) Some Changes Seen (3) Diagree with statement	cale of 1-3 Sky Tails.com The Last Act of