

**Jan Schmidt** has been a licensed, nonsectarian ordained minister with the state of Hawaii since 1985 and has served as a guidance and bereavement counselor for humans. In 1997 she provided her compassionate pet ministry services to others after the loss of her own cat companion, Cinnamon Apple. Following a memorial service she provided for her cat and inviting all her family and friends, Jan realized that this special sacred gathering helped to provide some closure for her deep-felt loss.

In 2000 she opened up the Cozy Cat Lodge a unique boarding facility that serves the community island wide. In 2007 she started up the Cozy Cat Sanctuary, a non-profit organization that specializes in finding homes for abandon cats and helping to feed the feral colonies island wide.

Jan is a member of the Theosophical Society in Kailua, Hawaii, a non-profit organization that promotes compassion and unity of all life, a vegetarian, animal watercolor artist and author of *Saying Goodbye to Your Pet Companion (A Journey from Grieving to Healing and Remembering)*.

Jan lives with her husband, Bill, and their 6 cats in Olomana, Kailua.



## Hawaii Pet Bereavement Support Group

*Grief from the death of a beloved pet can be an overwhelming experience.*

The Hawaii Pet Bereavement Support Group offers a safe and supportive environment to help you resolve your grief. Hearing how other people have endured and dealt with the loss of a pet may help you with the healing process and a sense of closure. We offer you support that provides additional reading materials, resources and creative tools to begin the process to heal.

Our Pet bereavement support group meets the first Monday of each month from 7:00 to 8:00 PM in Olomana, Kailua.

We keep the meetings small so please call in advance for directions and let us know that you are coming.

**For more information and appointments please call (808) 262-6598 or email: [JanSchmidt@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:JanSchmidt@hawaiiantel.net)**

## Hawaii Pet Ministry

*“Providing comfort, compassion, and peace of mind”*



**Jan Schmidt, DD, MsD, LMT  
Animal Chaplain**

*Services offered:*

**Pet Bereavement Counseling  
Memorial Services  
Sacred Ceremonies  
Crisis Support  
Pet Hospice/Euthanasia Support  
Pet Blessings**

**(808) 262-6598  
[JanSchmidt@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:JanSchmidt@hawaiiantel.net)  
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## Saying “Good-Bye”



I have personally lost several pets throughout the years and it is never gets easier. When a person passes away we usually have a network of support. When our pet dies we are usually left alone to grieve. Though friends and co-workers are kind, they may not quite understand the deep loss we experience. As humans we may experience any or all of the 5 stages of grief: denial, anger, bargaining, depression and recovery. The Hawaii Pet Ministry and Hawaii Pet Bereavement Support Group offer help and support for a better understanding of our grief and to find some closure. There are many ways we can say good-bye to our pet to honor and memorialize their life.

We hope that our pet will have a long life and perhaps die a natural death. But when suffering exceeds the pets will to live options other than a natural death should be explored.

Decisions for euthanasia are usually based on spiritual beliefs, degree of suffering, quality of life, compassion and medical advice. Sometimes we must make a choice for our pet that is unable to do that.

## Services Provided



### Pet Bereavement Counseling

Learn how to create your own pet memorial.

Receive specific tools as an aid for an upcoming or recent loss.

Ongoing spiritual support system is provided.

Phone counseling and personal counseling in my home is available.

### Memorial Services

Memorial services may be held at my home or yours. Each ceremony is personalized and sacred in nature.

### Sacred Ceremonies

Sacred ceremonies may include special prayer, cleansing, Healing Touch and Reiki directly before or after passing.

### Crisis Support

Often times during a crisis we are not always clear on what decisions to make or how to react during certain situations. If you have a crisis concern with

your pet, I am available for counseling and may be available to be with you in an emergency vet visit.

### Pet Hospice Support

I have had training through the Hospice Hawaii and volunteered as a chaplain. Now I have taken this experience to support and help both pet and its human with compassion and understanding.

### Euthanasia Support

Euthanasia is a life altering decision for many people, besides a difficult one. When we learn how to connect with our pet we can begin to understand their needs and desire in a compassionate way. I am available to discuss this issue with appointment by phone. If a decision is made for euthanasia, I may be available to assist you in your home or at your veterinarian's office.

### Pet Blessings

Create a closer connection to your pet companion with a special pet blessing. This is a sacred ceremony performed at your home or in our Zen patio garden outside the Cozy Cat Lodge.

*Services are provided on a volunteer basis.*

