



Operation Kindness Announces Community Pet Ofrenda to Honor Beloved Pets

The North Texas animal welfare organization invites community members to visit their shelter's community pet ofrenda this Dia de los Muertos

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Carrollton, Texas) – From October 25 to November 4, 2024, community members are encouraged to visit Operation Kindness' pet ofrenda – a colorful, community altar for deceased beloved pets - at the front entrance of the animal welfare non-profit's Carrollton shelter. Visitors are welcomed to honor their own deceased pet this Dia de los Muertos by leaving a picture of their furry friend on the shelters' ofrenda.

Día de los Muertos, translated in English to Day of the Dead, is a time to celebrate and honor the life of those that passed away, including your pet. Traditionally celebrated on November 1-2, Día de los Muertos has now branched out to include a day of remembrance for pets on October 27.

At [Operation Kindness](#), we know losing a pet can be hard, but this October you can commemorate your pet's life with your family by recalling happy memories and stories of them.

The History of the Day of the Dead

Originally celebrated in Mexico and other parts of Latin America, Día de los Muertos has grown popularity in the United States. During the holiday, ofrendas – translated as altars in English – are made and decorated with cherished items of past loved ones.

Celebrants believe that during the celebration, the souls of past pets and family members cross back over to Earth and are guided to their families through the offerings placed for them at the ofrenda.

While it wasn't always a tradition to celebrate the life of pets during this holiday, as the celebration grew more people wanted to honor their furry loved ones too, marking October 27 as the official day to celebrate lost pets by lighting a candle on an ofrenda in remembrance.

How to Celebrate the Day of the Dead this Year

Creating your own ofrenda is a perfect way to celebrate the life of your past pet this month. While an ofrenda has traditional decorations placed on it like marigold flowers and candles, it can also be customized to fit your pet's personality. We want to offer you some suggestions on what to place as offerings for your pet.

What to include on your ofrenda:

- Your pet's food or water bowl

- Your pet's favorite toy
- A favorite blanket
- Favorite pet food or treat
- Marigolds
- Candles
- Photo of your pet

For many, this is a holiday to receive closure and heal from the loss of a pet. Take time with your family to celebrate the memory of your beloved pet this Día de los Muertos by looking back at the joy filled life once lived.

Interviews available upon request.

B-roll can be found [here](#).

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About Operation Kindness

Operation Kindness, a 501(c)(3) non-profit animal welfare organization, operates a lifesaving animal shelter and programs to assist people and pets. Founded in 1976, Operation Kindness is a pioneer in Texas for assisting animals in need of veterinary care, companionship and, most of all, a home.

In addition to pet adoptions and lifesaving medical care, Operation Kindness' programs provide foster care for vulnerable animals, behavior and training support for pet parents, affordable veterinary services for community pets, a pet food pantry, volunteer opportunities and professional training. To learn more about Operation Kindness, please visit their website at www.operationkindness.org.

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