

May 26, 2024
In Memory of Lexi

Between the hours of 2:30 AM and 6:00 AM today Lexi left her physical body. After a familiar walk to the Pismo Pier with our neighbor Richard on May 22, she started to decline until she could walk no more. She seemed alert and did drink water both offered and on her own.

This morning we had a 9:00 AM appointment for a "Quality of Life Exam" at Pismo Veterinary Hospital. I discovered her gone before that appointment. She left, at home in her beach cottage with Affie and I. (Lexi helped choose the Grover Beach property in 2012, riding quietly and politely on the back seat of the impressed realtor's car while on tour.)

From the yellow jaundice of her gums and eyes and my journal entries the veterinarian felt she had liver failure. I had applied pressure to her white gums previously to see if the pink would come back and it did. Each morning Lexi appeared alert, but by yesterday she would not attempt to stand or walk at all.

In addition to her office duties at the Lake Tahoe Humane Society and S.P.C.A., Lexi was a Reading Buddy dog at the El Dorado County South Lake Tahoe Library, a humane education community outreach "volunteer" in both Nevada and California, including special education students, at elementary, middle and high schools. She was a visitation dog at the Barton Skilled Nursing Facility. And she was my Best Buddy into retirement. Through the years on days off, the hiking, walking, flower and bird ladies were comfortable with Lexi along. She was an international road tripper.

On Monday, May 20, we celebrated Lexi's 14th birthday and our 13th Anniversary. I will miss not growing older with Lexi. In any case, I am grateful she shared my life longer than might be expected.

Attached is a poem friend Richard handed me when he helped get Lexi into the van for her last ride. Today I read it at a cypress, dunes and waves view spot Lexi and I shared often. I hope you find the sentiment as supportive and real as I do. Thank you for loving Lexi, too.

Dawn