

MY BELOVED MINH NHAN CAT!



When I come home, I hear that you had a car accident on 21st street. I immediately go out and see you laying flat on the street. I raise your face and knowing that you had passed away. You are my favorite cat with a little black dot on your nose that is why I named you “Minh Nhan”. From now on, I can’t see you run to greet me every time I come home. Your lost make me feel so sad, Minh Nhan.

My beloved Minh Nhan! Whoever accidently ran over you and cost your life?



Everyone at the temple loves you so much. Miss Uyen always brings food for your family. Dr. Lori Freije at South Memorial Hospital takes very good care of your 4 member’s family free of charge. Dr. Freije is a Buddhist with a kind heart that always rescue animals and take good care of them. She considers your family is a member of Tam Bao Buddhist Temple and she would like to donate her time and her expertise to help you. We are very thankful to Dr. Freije. Every time she comes to the temple, she pets you all and loves you very much. For sure that she will miss you when she know you are no longer with us. All the children at the temple like to play and pet you whenever they come to the temple. When they hear you died, they cry and come to visit your grave.

My beloved Minh Nhan! Do you remember all memories at Tam Bao Buddhist temple? A year ago, your mom gave birth to you, Minh Tuyen, and Minh Bach. Monk Quang Hien make a warmly place for you to sleep. Everyone was happy to seeing you open your eyes and run around. One time, you climbed to the roof that it's too high for you to get down. I got the ladder to bring you down. When I know you all were inside the house to sleep, then I went to my



room without notice that you silently walked into my room, and jumped to my bed with one of your leg touching softly on my cheek and scratch your head to my cheek like an appreciation. Who said that cat is not smart and doesn't have any feeling? A little animal like you know how to pay gratitude to the one who help and love you.

Every morning I go to the Buddha Hall to chant the sutra; I let your family out to the yard to play. But you always want to come with me to the Buddha Hall to listen the chanting. You sit on the hand of the Shakyamuni Buddha and look down to hear I, Hai, Son, Dieu Hieu, Dieu Ngo chant the sutra. I worry if some Buddhist member doesn't like to see you doing that, but I still let you sit and watch, and I think that even if the Buddha still alive, he still lets you do that, because you are a very lovely cat.

I remember one time; you were locked in monk Quang Hien's closet. I heard some knocking and I came to see you lying down with two legs swirl around, and the other legs keep knocking to make noise. I opened the closet to let you out, and held you in my arm; your eyes were wet because of scare, but fully appreciated.



The other time, you were locked in the restroom outside. I looked everywhere to find you, when I come close to the restroom and called "meow meow", you answered me with "meow meow". It was a cold day, and I hold you in my arm, you were so happy to be rescued.

The other time, you came inside the Buddha Hall and Mr. Hai thought you were going to break flowers and

trees and made a mess, so he let you go outside. After the service, I went out and saw you sit in front of the door to wait for me. It was cold and snow, and your body was cold dues to waiting for me outside for more than an hour.

My beloved Minh Nhan!
How can I ever forget your face? Every morning you sit and wait outside my room and eagerly to see me. I always give food to your family, and then let you out to play. You are the most favorite cat in the house. When you mom was sick, you always beside her, lick and clean her up. You always sleep and hold your mom in your arm. You always clean up after playing and then clean your sibling too.



My beloved Minh Nhan! You are very smart. You always pay attention to whatever people do around the temple with your eyes lid up and watch closely trying to understand why and how. Especially you know which one is my car, and you always run to hug me whenever you see me come home. From now on, I cannot see you anymore, but in my heart you are always there. I will take good care of your mom Minh Man, your brother Minh Tuyen and your sister Minh

Bach.

Today I feel so distressed when Everyone at the temple feels so sad. I ask Mr. Gong, Mr. Tan, Mr. Dong to make a little casket for you. I put you in the casket and wear a “bright and shine blanket” for you in hoping you can transform into a better life in the future. Mr Hoa, Miss Uyen and I walk around to find the best place to bury you. We decide to bury you under the pear tree where you used to play since a kitten. I

I bring your body back to the temple.





think of waiting until the next morning to bury you, but everyone says we should let you have a peaceful sleep. Therefore I have a funeral Buddhist service for you at 6pm on February 26, 2011; I bring your mom, and your siblings to pay respect to you for the last time.

I hope you are a good cat who will be reborn into a better realm. I will ask the Buddha to help you. Please remember the reciting Buddha, the sutra that I ever read for you. Life is impermanent and very short. We only live with each other for one year. If your next life I can see you again, I will help you more. My beloved Minh Nhan, remember me and you are forever in my heart.

Namo Amitabha Buddha!

Tam Bao Buddhist Temple, February 26, 2011
Thầy Đức Trí

*In memorial of Minh Nhan,
Date of Birth: February 23, 2010
Date of Death: February 26, 2011*

