Pet Goodbye Checklist

For the hours and days when a beloved dog or cat passes

BEFORE THE GOODBYE (if there is time)

- [ ] Decide where: at the vet or at home
- [ ] Choose aftercare: burial, private or communal cremation
- [ ] Pay ahead; ask for the last appointment of the day
- [ ] Ask about sedation first
- [ ] Bring their blanket, treats and a towel

IF THEY PASS AT HOME

- [ ] Lay them on a towel, curled as if sleeping, eyes closed
- [ ] Do this within 1–2 hours, before stiffness sets in
- [ ] Keep them in the coolest room; wrapped ice packs help
- [ ] Plan burial or pickup within 12–24 hours
- [ ] Call your vet, an emergency clinic or an aftercare service

KEEPSAKES TO GATHER FIRST

- [ ] Paw print (clay or ink)
- [ ] Nose print
- [ ] A small clipping of fur
- [ ] Collar and tags

HOME BURIAL

- [ ] Check local rules
- [ ] About 3 feet deep
- [ ] Away from water and wells; call 811 before you dig
- [ ] Natural wrap, not plastic
- [ ] Mark the spot

THE DAYS AFTER

- [ ] Tell your vet (stops reminder cards)
- [ ] Update the microchip registry
- [ ] Call pet insurance (ask about end-of-life costs)
- [ ] Cancel automatic deliveries
- [ ] Donate unopened food and supplies to a shelter

Their name: ____

Vet / aftercare phone: ____

You are allowed to miss them this much. Light a free candle for them at therivarra.com/rainbow-bridge