

**From:** friendsofnikki@comcast.net [mailto:friendsofnikki@comcast.net]

**Sent:** Thursday, March 08, 2012 10:52 PM

**To:** Donna

**Subject:** Happy Anniversary

Dear Friends of Nikki,

Eleven years ago today, March 8th, Friends of Nikki had their very first meeting. It included myself, a good friend, and one of my patients. I wasn't really certain what I was doing, or what direction we would go. One thing I did know, is that a furry little girl named Nicole Kimberly shared her 14+ years on this earth with me, and I would never be the same. She left me in May of 2000 with a plan to start a support group to help pet parents with ill and aging "kids". The rest is history.

I want to thank each of you who have trusted me with your heartaches, and grief over the years. Friends of Nikki remains small, just like Nicole, but has been able to reach out big, and touch many lives. Each of you have touched mine in some way, as well. Out of all the nursing jobs I've had, some of which I remember dearly, none have meant as much in my heart as facilitating Friends of Nikki. All of you have made this possible.

Nicole (aka Nikki), thank you for the blessings you shared with me during your life, and yes, thank you also for those which came as a result of your death. I hope you're as proud of Mommy as she is of you. Your brothers in Heaven - Ziggy, Daniel (Danni), and Doogie - have each contributed in some way. With your angel spirits watching over me, and the help of God, I will continue to do what I can to help people through the illness and deaths of their cherished pets. I am truly blessed.

Warmly,  
Donna