

**Sent:** Thursday, April 12, 2012 10:00:10 PM  
**Subject:** Thinking of Doogie

Dear Friends,

Had one of those moments that necessitate my writing in order to express what I'm feeling. I've shared them before. Since many of you can probably relate to similar feelings, I thought I'd share this one, too. Yes, grab the tissue box first!

### Thinking of Doogie

In less than 25 days you will be gone from my side 2 entire years. How can that be? We were buddies, best friends, Mommy and Son. In many ways since, life has changed so much. There have been other losses. There's the joy of Lilly and Tommy. There are new friends, new responsibilities and challenges. So much has changed except for my love for you. I miss you.....I miss us. Nothing or no one will ever take your place in my heart. I miss our talks. You were the earthly connection to Nikki and Danni. You were the constant as so much of my life changed. The 7 years alone with you created a bond I cannot put into words. I knew the time would come. I knew we would have to say goodbye. Hey remember, I wasn't a rookie at this. I've been doing Friends of Nikki for a long time, and I've entered others pain, even helped some through it. But even though, I dreaded the day you would leave more than anything. Who would help me with meetings? Who would sit by my side as I felt the pain and sorrow of others, through emails or phone calls? I always made sure you were close by when I returned those pain-filled calls. You were my anchor, my strength. We said prayers every night for all the Friends of Nikki, and their Mommies and Daddies. Well, Doog, I'm still here, and so is Friends of Nikki. You and your siblings now send help from the other side. Your Mommy's been sad lately. Today I sit and begin to prepare for my first public presentation on pet loss. I miss you so much right now that the tears won't stop. It is these strong emotions, and the awareness and acceptance of them, that enables me to do the work I do. I thank you, Ziggy, Nikki, and Danni for sharing your lives, and your deaths, with me as it is through both that I have become the person I now am. Miss you so much, Baby, and just had to tell you.

Love,  
Mommy

Are the pain of grief, and the many tears we shed for loved ones normal? Do we miss them and grieve them, yet still go on with life? I believe the answer to both questions is YES.

Thank you for listening,  
Donna