

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

Sent: Monday, October 10, 2011 1:20 AM

To: Donna

Subject: An Angel Is Born!!

AN ANGEL IS BORN

Thursday, October 10th, 1985, an angel is born in the body of a black and white Shih Tzu..... We got the call from Mom that Aunt Josie's dog had puppies - why don't we go look at them. They are Shih Tzus - those pushed-in face ones! I don't even like that look! I want a dog with a nose!! OK, I'll please my relatively new mother-in-law, and go look.

There were a bunch of these little critters running around the kitchen. None of them came anywhere close to Ziggy, my first and only dog, a handsome little Maltese who had died just a little over 3 months prior. OK, pick one, Donna. You can't make it through Christmas without a dog. There must be one that'll do. I went back up the few steps for another look. Hey, she came over and kissed me! She is kinda cute, despite the absence of a real nose. OK, we'll take her. If I have a daughter someday, I'd like to name her Nicole, or Kim. How's Nicole Kimberly Kahora sound? That's what we'll name her.

The first night was a disaster!! My vet, at the time, whom I trusted for years with my dear Ziggy, suggested crating her at night for the first year. Well, it seems that Nicole Kimberly didn't agree! She wined, and cried, and made all sorts of unusual sounds through that black spot on her face, where her nose was supposed to be. She kept us up at night, and wasn't anything like Ziggy. What a mistake we made!! Do I want to keep the in-laws liking me, or do we return this little alien back to Aunt Josie? I can't stand her crying - let's just put her in the bed, so we can get a night's sleep. I won't tell the vet, if you don't! She's quiet, she likes the bed a lot better. Maybe if she gets some sleep, she'll grow a real nose, and I'll grow to like her a little?!?

Well, that's how it all started, folks. Nikki not only grew a beautiful nose, but she won over our hearts. She went on to live 14 years 8 months, in her earthly body. She earned her official angel wings on Tuesday May 30th, in the year 2000. Her life, illness, and even her death, inspired me so much that I found a way to keep her spirit alive through me. Friends of Nikki held it's first meeting on March 8th, 2001. With Nikki's ongoing support, many lives have been touched in some small way. Her death even allowed me to finally grieve Ziggy. It never ceases to amaze me how that little, noseless, ball of fur, has had such an impact on so many lives.

Today, I will honor my strong-willed, I'm not sleeping in a crate, Taebo Girl, as she celebrates her 26th birthday in Heaven. Nikki, you changed my life forever. How can I ever thank you for that very first kiss? Happy Birthday, Baby. As I always told you when you were here, Mommy loves you more than life itself.

In honor of Nikki's life, please take a few minutes today to remember a special animal, who has touched your life. Their time with us is brief, but their capacity to love is immeasurable.

Forever Dog-Blessed,
Donna

PS – Below is the card we made in her memory, 11 years ago, including all her many nicknames.

Nicole Kimberly Kahora

October 10, 1985 - May 30, 2000

A.K.A: Nikki, Knickerbocker, Knickers, Bocker, Nicoder Pignoda, Pignoli Nut, Pignole, Nik the Quick, Nikki Lauper, Stevie Nicks, Pepperpot, Grail, Oscar, Sweet Pea, Schnickers, Schnorkers, Schnockers, Shop Steward, Precious Moment In Time, Pasta, Pastafagoli, Kibbles, Kibbles & Bits, Munch a Bunch, Corn Chip, Precious One, The Demanding One, Spokesperson For The Group, Capital, Pumpkin, Gorgeous, Feisty One, Taebo Girl, Baby Girl, Mommy's Beautiful Girl, Bonab, Princess, California Girl, Subaru



"A Dog To Some, A Daughter To Us"

Most importantly you were our little girl and we loved you with all our heart and soul, "more than life itself."

You gave us more pleasure than we could even measure. We miss you tremendously everyday and will always, always love you. Kisses and huggies 'til the cows come home.

Mommy, Daddy, Danni & Doogie too.