

"NEXT BEST THING TO BRINGING THEM BACK ALIVE"

Freeze-Drying Preserves Memory of Departed Pets

Your favorite dog, cat, bird or other pet can now be preserved forever, thanks to the wonders of freeze-drying and Preserv-A-Pet International of Nisswa, Minn.

"It's the next best thing to bringing deceased pets back to life," says Roger Saatzer, president. His company offers a first-of-its kind service for pet owners which preserves the remains of four-legged loved ones in life-like fashion.

Pet owners from all corners of the United States have sent him deceased pets to be freeze-dried. "We've done everything from dogs, cats and birds to gerbils, snakes and skunks. We've even freeze-dried a pet lion," Saatzer told FARM SHOW. "Freeze drying gives the animal a far more life-like appearance than traditional taxidermy. We're able to preserve pets in their most natural and complete form. Freeze-drying extracts all water from the body without altering

its shape or size. All decomposition is halted and the animal won't shrink or have an odor."

Pet owners freeze their deceased pets, then ship them UPS "air service" to Preserv-A-Pet, along with a photograph or two showing the pose in which they want their pet preserved. The pet is thawed and shaped into the desired pose, then freeze-dried. Except for the eyes, no artificial body parts are added.

Saatzer notes that freeze-drying isn't new. "It dates back to the turn of the century and is used by museums, universities and other institutions to preserve animals, food, flowers, medical specimens and other items," says Saatzer, a leading manufacturer and retailer of freeze-drying equipment.

For several years, he tried to get several taxidermists interested in freeze-drying pets. Unable to stir up interest, he decided to test the pet



Photo by Steve Kohls

"It's the next best thing to bringing pets back to life," says Roger Saatzer, president of Preserv-A-Pet.

market himself.

"The response has been fantastic," says Saatzer. "We're even getting calls and letters from pet owners who know an older favorite pet hasn't much time left and they want to have all the freeze-drying arrangements made for when the time comes."

Cost for freeze-drying pets range from about \$450 for a house cat in the

sitting position to \$2,000 for a large watchdog in the jumping or "attack" position. Saatzer hopes to be on the market soon with a franchised Preserv-A-Pet Service.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup: Preserv-A-Pet International, Roger Saatzer, president; P.O. Box 775, Nisswa, Minn. 56468 (ph 218 963-2900).



The wedding procession included three combines and a tractor and grain cart. Kathy and Bob (bottom photo) met at the implement dealership where they work. They led the procession in a Deere 7720 (right).

"COMBINED FOREVER!"

Couple Takes Wedding Ride In A Combine

It seemed only logical for Bob Gray and Kathy Werth to take their honeymoon ride in a combine. Bob is chief combine mechanic, and Kathy is a bookkeeper, at Ballweg Implement, Markesan, Wis. The two met at the dealership and, as Kathy says, "Bob's life in the fall is combines."

Three combines — a pair of Deere 7720's and one 6620 — and a 4450 Deere tractor with a grain cart carried the entire wedding party from the church to the dealership lot after the ceremony. Friends of the couple provided the equipment.

A sign on the lead combine carrying the newlyweds said it all: "Combined Forever . . . Kathy & Bob".

