

Humane Legacy



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

Return their unconditional love... with a legacy

"I have always felt a very close connection to all animals," says Gigi Middlebrook. A self-professed "Army brat," Gigi says dogs and cats were always in tow during her family's multiple moves. As a girl, she helped turtles cross busy roads; as an adult, she still watches for them.

"Humans are responsible for so many evil and unjust actions in the world today," Gigi observes. "I would much rather spend my time with animals instead. My cats are my companions and give me unconditional love."

Gigi credits her HSUS membership with educating her on animal-welfare issues and giving her tools to fight for animals. She advocates for African elephants and rhinos, and the widespread mistreatment of factory-farmed animals has prompted her to adopt a more plant-based diet.

She looks forward to volunteering additional time to animal causes when she retires from her position as a laboratory administrator. Gigi also has a special interest in passing on her passion: "We must educate children to the wonders of animals... and how to treat them kindly and with care, so that they can carry on the work when my generation is gone."

Gigi's commitment also takes a financial form. She makes modest monthly gifts to The HSUS and has included the organization in her will. "It only makes sense to me to give back to these beings that have brought me such joy in my lifetime," Gigi says. "I can't think of any other way I would rather leave this life than to help animals."

To learn how to easy it can be to create your own legacy for animals, contact the HSUS Planned Giving team at **800-808-7858** or smaughan@humanesociety.org or visit humanesociety.org/legacy.



Gigi and her cat, Lily

PHOTO BY MEREDITH LEE/THE HSUS

10,000 and counting: Partnering with pet stores to save homeless dogs

In April 2017, the HSUS Puppy-Friendly Pet Stores conversion program surpassed a milestone: the adoption of the 10,000th shelter dog.

Since launching this campaign in 2013, The Humane Society of the United States has worked with 20 pet store companies across the country to stop selling puppy mill dogs and to make homeless dogs available for adoption instead. Once viewed as part of the puppy mill problem, pet stores are now a critical part of the solution.

The HSUS is working with several businesses to convert their model to an animal-friendly one. HSUS staff works to help identify shelters in need and match them with pet stores willing to convert; they then assist with transporting homeless animals from the pre-screened shelters to the stores. This is the humane economy at work.

Behind the milestone number are thousands of individual dogs whose lives have been transformed. Clarice, a 10-year-old Yorkie surrender, is one such dog whose sad story now has a happy ending. After being surrendered to a shelter in poor condition, Clarice was spayed and given lots of TLC by a pet-store partner. She has since been adopted into a loving family and now sports a beautiful coat of hair.



By offering puppies for adoption from shelters and relying on pet supplies to drive revenues, stores can save the lives of these animals. This is a critical part of The HSUS's overall campaign to rescue dogs from cruel puppy mills, shut down Internet sellers/outdoor flea markets, set standards for the care of breeding dogs and drive the market toward pet adoption or responsible breeders.

Even if you are not in the market for a new puppy, buying your pet's food and supplies at stores that offer shelter and rescue dogs for adoption is an easy way to help our economy go humane. To find a local pet store that has taken the pledge not to support puppy mills, text "PUPPY" to 30644 (message and data rates apply) or visit humanesociety.org/puppystores.

A humane retirement



Peter Schwartz with his feline companion, Katrina

You may not be aware that you can help animals in need while at the same time providing yourself with a retirement income for life. A charitable gift annuity allows you to make a donation now, and in return you will receive an income for life based upon your age. Part of your donation is tax-deductible, and some of your income could be tax-free.

Donor Age	Gift Annuity Rate
65	4.7%
70	5.1%
75	5.8%
80	6.8%
85	7.8%

Rates effective 1/1/17, subject to change

We encourage you to consult your financial adviser to determine whether a charitable gift annuity complements your financial objectives. Charitable gift annuity rates are determined by age and set by the ACGA. Please note that The HSUS does not offer gift annuities for residents of Alabama, Arkansas, Hawaii or North Dakota. The minimum donation is \$10,000.

To learn more or to receive a customized illustration, please contact Ann Kolakowski at akolakowski@humanesociety.org or 301-548-7782 or you can explore more at humanesociety.org/giftannuities.

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