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## Gold Coast: Pet Angel Funerals offers grieving pet owners luxury funeral service complete with chauffeur and Mercedes-Benz

Southeast Queensland pet owners are lining up to give their dearly departed swanky funerals. You won't believe how luxurious they are...

**Emily Toxward**, Gold Coast Bulletin

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GRIEVING pet owners are lining up to give their dearly departed a swanky send off in a luxury car, complete with a uniformed chauffeur and white roses.

It what's believed to an Australian first, Gold Coast business Pet Angel Funerals has launched a luxury service that allows pet owners to give their fur babies one final ride in a high-end Mercedes-Benz fitted with custom leather and timber interior.

Owner and founder Tom Jorgensen recently expanded to open a factory in Brisbane, so his business services the entire south east region, including northern NSW.

Mr Jorgensen said he created the service to cater for a spike in demand for a more luxurious service from long-term customers wanting something special for their "babies".



General Manager of Pet Angels, Scott Gunnell, with one of the two new Mercedes Benz luxury cars they purchased for pets driven to final resting place in luxury. Picture: Jerad Williams

"So we thought a fitting way would be to use a luxury car such as a Mercedes-Benz," he said.

"We have only had Pet 1 and Pet 2 on the road for a few days now and we have been inundated with inquiries.

"It's about the finer details like having stunning white roses and special music playing in the Mercedes with your pet. We want pet owners' minds to be at ease, knowing their angel is being taken to the crematorium in a most beautiful way."



Pet Angels Funerals now offers a luxury funeral service for pets across southeast Queensland.

After investigating the concept overseas extensively, especially in the US, Mr Jorgensen said he hadn't found anything of this level. The two station wagons are fitted out in a traditional human hearse method.

"Ours eclipses anything that's available in Australia and possibly the world," he said.

He said the new deluxe service package started from \$575 and included Australian-made memorial products and collection of pets by a uniformed chauffeur. The business has also noticed a recent increase in pet owners buying personalised lockets that contain ashes of their pets.



Pet Angels Funerals have decked out two new Mercedes Benz as hearses so pets can have one final lap of luxury before being put to rest. Picture: Jerad Williams

"In this day and age, and with pet ownership and pet prices and expectations of owners going through the roof, we just have to lift our game and we think we've done that with this luxury transfer service," he said.

"We treat pets with dignity and grace always. We treat them as if they were a human family member, no different."

Pet Angel Funerals was founded in 2015 and is now southeast Queensland's largest independent family-owned pet crematorium, caring for around 800 families a month.

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General Manager of Pet Angels, Scott Gunnell, with one of the two new Mercedes Benz luxury cars they purchased for pets driven to final resting place in luxury. Picture: Jerad Williams