

A FREE GUIDE FROM MATT & MILLY

Twenty questions to remember your friend



For the one beside you now, and the one you miss.

Write as much or as little as you like.

mattandmilly.com

Before you begin

A photograph keeps how someone looked. It does not keep the snoring, the twitching paws, the way they sat at your feet, or the small habit that was only ever theirs.

These twenty questions are a way of writing those things down while you can still hear them. There is no right order and no right answer. Short is fine. A single word is fine. Skip anything that is too hard today and come back to it.

If you are missing someone, there is no deadline. Some people answer in an evening; some take a year. You do not have to do it all at once, and you never have to share it.

You can keep your answers for yourself, put them in a card or a scrapbook, or give them to someone who loved your friend too. If you would one day like them turned into a book, that is where Matt & Milly starts.

Matt and Milly

It began with Milly, a chocolate Labrador and my best friend.

WHO THEY WERE

1 Their name, and every nickname they ever had.

2 How did you meet, or how did they find you?

3 What did they look like? The colours, the markings, the one feature you would know anywhere.

4 What was the first thing you noticed about their character?

THE LITTLE THINGS

5 What sounds did they make?

6 Where did they always sit or sleep?

7 What did they love to eat, and what did they do to get it?

8 A game, a toy or a ritual only they would play.

9 What did they do when you came home?

10 What little habit was only ever theirs?

PLACES AND DAYS

11 Their favourite place, walk, ride or window.

12 Describe an ordinary, perfect day with them.

13 The funniest thing they ever did.

14 A time they surprised you, or looked after you.

YOU AND THEM

15 How did they make you feel on a hard day?

16 What do they know about you that nobody else does?

17 What did you say to them most often?

KEEPING THEM

18 What do you never want to forget?

19 If a book about them had one line, what would it say?

20 Who else loved them, and what would they say?

A few extra questions, for your kind of friend

Dogs

What was their walk, and what did they do on it? What did they do at the water, in the mud, or at the gate? Which person were they always waiting for?

Cats

Where did they watch the world from? How did they wake you up? What did they do when you were sad, or ignoring them?

Horses and ponies

What did they do at the gate or stable door when you arrived? What do you want to remember about riding or caring for them? What was their favourite thing to eat, and how did they ask?

Rabbits, small pets and birds

What noises did they make? What was their favourite corner, tunnel or perch? What did they do when they were happy?

If you would like a book

Matt & Milly makes personalised watercolour storybooks about animals people love, or miss. You tell us about your friend in a short form, in your own words, with a few photos. We write the story and paint it from your photos.

You see a proof before you pay, and you can ask for changes twice. When you approve it, we print a 24-page hardcover and post it. There is no deadline for a remembrance book.

We are open about how it is made: the illustrations are created with AI image tools in a watercolour style, then guided and checked by a person against your photos.

Start your book: mattandmilly.com/pages/start-your-book

Questions? hello@mattandmilly.com

Whatever you decide, we are sorry if you are missing someone.