



In Remembrance



Kirby Nilsen

2008-2011

"Kirby, our Black-Capped Conure, was with us from 12/30/2008 until 02/08/2011. The first time he saw me he put on an exhausting performance of summersaults and crazy antics until adopting him became my only choice. He filled our home with love and laughter during his short life. I feel very fortunate to have experienced the extraordinary bond of being chosen by a baby bird to be part of his life, his flock."

Kirby passed away, apparently he had been ingesting the cotton fibers from his rope bungee perch. He became suddenly ill and we ended up at "The Bird Clinic" in Orange to see Dr. Nemetz. Although we tried hard to save Kirby he just could not pull through, when the Dr. performed a necropsy on Kirby he found the stomach, gizzard and partial crop were all stuffed so much that Kirby could no longer get nutrients through. Dr. Nemetz estimated the cotton ingestion had begun at the store even before we originally adopted Kirby and slowly built up over his life.

We would appreciate if in Kirby's memory you would inform all of your avian clients about the dangers of cotton toys and rope perches. We no longer use any cotton products inside our bird's cages. Kirby will not have died in vain if his ordeal can save the life of another and the heart of an avian pet's owner.

We have moved to Palmdale and now are kept as pets by Sherman, (White Bellied Caique,) and Pip who is a special mutation of a cinnamon Conure. Both are boys and they are loving having Kathy and myself as pets. When needed we travel to Orange to "The Bird Clinic" since both birds have had all of their check ups with Dr. Nemetz.

Kathy and I would like to thank all of you at Westlake Pet Hospital for your kind help in the past and wish you the best for the business as well as each employee. Sherman and Pip send kind wishes and a few screams.

Sincerely,

Greg & Kathy Nilsen