

## My Favorite Pets

*By Joan Mish*

We have had several pets as our children were growing up: a parrot my sister gave me, a hamster that eventually our cat ate, and a few fish. But the one we all loved the most was our cat.

One Christmas we were asking the kids what they wanted for Christmas. And our second son said he wanted a cat. Well, we couldn't find any cat at that time. But by March my husband came home and told just me that one of his work mates had some kittens he wanted to get rid of. We both agreed that would be great.

So one night he walked in the door about 6:00 which was the time we usually ate. He surprised everyone with this adorable bronze-colored kitty. So as we sat down to dinner with the kids, we discussed what we should name it.

They threw around multiple names but all of a sudden my oldest son who is clever with words, which I was not aware of at that time, came up with SIR PRIZE!

We all agreed that was a perfect name. The kids took good care of him and cleaned the kitty litter until they all left home. Then it was up to me.

Well, she died 19 years later. Something was going wrong for a couple of months and I took him to the vet at least once. Finally my husband took the day off since I could not take him. I had something going on at school that I couldn't miss. The vet put him down and we had him cremated. Once it was Easter or sometime when all the kids came home, we buried his ashes in our Lilly of the Valley garden.