



When I bought my first ferret from a pet store 13 years ago, I knew they were the pet for me. But after I discovered that most ferrets come from breeding mills, I began adopting instead. I've had about a dozen rescued ferrets over the years and loved every one. They've got their own room filled with lounging spots and toys. I've even ferret-proofed my house for extra fun time when I'm home.

This is Kaya, who passed away in June. She had the most angelic face. But she also had a little tiger behind that face. She'd do this thing called a ferret war dance, arching her long body and bouncing backwards while clicking and squeaking. She was fearless, too, and would chase my mom's cat when she was feeling playful.

Not every ferret gives kisses, but Kaya did. When I cuddled her, she would tickle my cheek with her little tongue. She'll be forever missed by her family. She crawled into our hearts, snuggled in deep, and stole a piece when she left.

— JULIA FRANET-HORNBECK, AURORA, COLORADO

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