

Featured Felines: Escapes & Rescues 12 (2024)

(page checked June 2026)

Caleb, rescued from a rubbish bin in Pennsylvania, USA

Fargo, rescued half-frozen in West Virginia, USA

Tigger, abandoned by his owner, Maryland, USA

Caleb, rescued from a rubbish bin **Pennsylvania, USA**

After being found in a rubbish bin, Caleb was taken to the Peaceful Mountain Cat Sanctuary in Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania, a private sanctuary for old, handicapped and feral cats, run by Michele Klein, her husband and her mother. Caleb was old and sick and wasn't expected to last the night after his rescue, but at least he would have a peaceful place to pass away.



But it turned out that Caleb had other ideas! Over the course of the next few days he showed a strong will to live and began to make a remarkable recovery. Michele took him into the house, gave him lots of love and care, and determined to give him the best life she could for as long as she could. Although he mostly liked to eat and sleep, he made great progress and showed no interest in going outside. He seemed to be enjoying life, and so it continued for months.



Caleb as he was found



Feeling much better!

After some ten months, however, things started to change. He lost weight, was crying a lot and it seemed his health was deteriorating; and he began to look out of windows and sit by doors, something he'd never done before. Michele felt that he was asking to take a last look outside, a kind of last wish – and so she took him out and walked with him. Every day for a week he enjoyed wandering outside while Michele accompanied him; the spring that flowed through the field was a particular favourite.

And then, having enjoyed his last week, Caleb took his final breath and passed away.



[Facebook](#) (video) | [Laughing Squid](#) (both Aug. 2023) | [Peaceful Mountain Sanctuary](#)

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Fargo, saved from freezing to death

Charleston, West Virginia , USA



In January 2017 the rescue organisation Itty Bitty Kitty Committee (IBKC) of Charleston, which specialises in cats needing help, received a call from an outlying rescue organisation that didn't have the facilities to deal with an elderly cat they had found half-frozen to death and unlikely to survive without emergency help. A kind woman brought him to the IBKC vet's surgery, where they began warming him up and giving him care and love. Everyone thought he'd be scared, but on the contrary he began to purr and chirrup with pleasure.



Named **Fargo**, he'd very likely lived a hard life until then; he was skinny, had only one tooth, but tested negative for FIV. After just one day he was 'eating and drinking like a champ', and would purr the minute anyone touched him. As soon as he was well enough he was sent to live with foster parents, but that would be permanent for however long he had left to live and he wouldn't be put up for adoption. Despite his age, medically he was fine.

His foster mum said, 'He's incredibly sweet; his purr is unlike anything I've ever heard! And when he gets feisty, he nibbles your hand with his one tooth. We're unsure how much time he has on this earth, but what we are sure of is the love we have for this old boy, and the amount of love he has for us.'





I haven't found any more recent news of Fargo, but would imagine that by 2024 he will have died.

[Happy Whisker](#) (Dec. 2023) | [LoveMeow](#) (Feb. 2017) | [Best Cat Page](#) (undated)

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Tigger

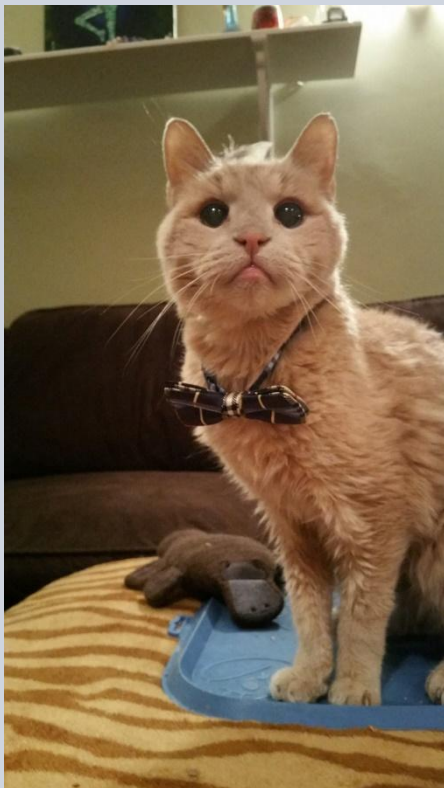
Abandoned by his owner, Maryland, USA



At 20 years old, ginger cat **Tigger** was abandoned in 2015 by his owner to the Towson Veterinary Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland; I don't know the circumstances, of course, but it seems a heartless thing to do. He was unhappy and not eating well, no doubt wondering why he'd been left in this strange place.

It so happened that a lady called Adriene and her partner Michael were looking for another cat as a companion for the one they already had, 6-year-old Stuart. Reading Tigger's story on Facebook they were touched by it, and decided they'd like to give the old chap a home. He was underweight, his fur was all matted, and the vet he went to for a check-up prescribed various medications. But when he joined the family in February 2015 Tigger soon made himself at home, gained weight, and his coat became soft and silky again. He was, though, drinking large amounts of water, and on taking him to the vet again it was confirmed that he had chronic kidney disease (CKD) – and also a golf-ball-sized tumour in his belly.

Not knowing how long he had to live, his humans decided to make a 'bucket list' for Tigger, and give him the best possible life in the time he had left. They went on holidays together, arranged outings, and he especially loved going to the beach; his story was even featured on TV! In November 2016 they were able to celebrate his 22nd birthday, which was the second since he was adopted -- more than they had expected or were hoping for.





The end came suddenly and unexpectedly one evening in early March 2017, not long after the 2-year anniversary of his adoption and when he seemed to still be doing amazingly well. But that evening he became wobbly and started falling over. Adriene picked him up, he tucked his head into her arms and began purring loudly ... and within a very short time had peacefully passed away, with his family and his cat 'brother' Stuart nearby. He'd had a wonderful couple of years, and at the same time had given his family so much pleasure. He was sorely missed.



[Facebook](#) (last used 2022) | [Best Cat Page](#) (undated) | [The Dodo](#) (March 2016) | [9 News](#) June 2016)

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