

Featured Felines: Miscellany 21 (2023)

(page checked July 2026)

Restaurant Cat Denny

Eugene, Oregon, USA



It was sometime around 2020 that a stray ginger cat turned up at Denny's Restaurant in Eugene, Oregon, frightened and looking for some food and a warm place to sleep. Thinking he was just lost, staff gave him food and water – but then he didn't want to leave! A number of people tried to take him and give him a home, but he made it clear he didn't want to be picked up. So restaurant staff adopted him and made him a cosy place just outside. Patrons made him a little house; there was a constant supply of blankets, and in winter someone even brought along a heating lamp to keep him warm. Named **Denny**, all his needs were met and he became very popular, with people coming from all over town to visit him, and the restaurant table overlooking his 'pad' being much prized.



As he grew older a closer eye was kept on him, and vet visits became more frequent for Denny, or 'Mr Denms'. In April 2020 he became quite ill; and this time there was no question that he needed to be indoors. He was taken in by Angela and Mike, a kind-hearted couple who fell in love with him and nursed him back to health. He adjusted to his new lifestyle, became playful and quite a 'lap cat'. He was found, among other health problems to be FIV-positive, which presented a bit of a problem as they had other cats and didn't want the disease transmitted to

them, so they couldn't introduce Denny into the group as they'd intended. Twice they found for him what seemed to be good homes where he could be happy for the rest of his life, but he made it quite clear he wanted to be back with them!



Then in July 2020 he started limping on one of his back legs. Neuropathy was diagnosed, and it was hoped that physical therapy and other treatment would solve the problem, but after a week or so it returned. And then the other back leg failed too. Denny became almost completely immobile, had great difficulty toileting and stopped eating and drinking on his own. After much consideration and consultation, including Patricia, his former carer at the restaurant, it was decided it would be kindest to put Denny to sleep with peace and dignity, rather than leaving him to lead a life with limited mobility, little dignity and eventual pain. Never left alone during his final 72 hours, he was put to sleep in his favourite bed on 15 August.

[Iheartcats](#) (dated Nov. 2019 but updated Nov. 2020) | [Denny eulogy](#) (Aug. 2020) | [The Dodo](#) (Oct. 2019) | [Instagram](#) (Feb. 2017)

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Featured Felines: Miscellany 22 (2023)

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Junkyard cat Buster

Columbus, Ohio, USA



I think it was also around 2020 that a tabby cat, along with his brothers Chester and Gizzy and sister Maggie May, appeared at Woody's Auto Salvage in Grove City, a suburb of Columbus, Ohio, USA – the kind of junkyard where people go to look for car parts. He was just waiting at the door one morning when owner Ray arrived, and walked in as though he'd always been there. Employees couldn't take all the cats home, so it was decided that **Buster**, as he was named, would live at the junkyard and become the 'office cat' – a role he's taken to whole-heartedly. He loves greeting customers, follows them out, likes to jump on their cars – even sometimes goes in a car for a snooze! He has his own feeding and drinking area and his own litter-box.



At the weekends Ray takes Buster home to join his other cats, and Buster loves playing and interacting with them for a couple of days, but then usually seems ready to resume his duties at the junkyard.



A number of YouTube clips of Buster are available (search for 'Buster junkyard cat') and there is an [Instagram](#) account featuring him and his siblings (*active mid-2026*).

[YouTube](#) (2021) | [Cole and Marmalade](#) (June 2022) | [Supastuff](#) (undated; video)



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