

Grace's adoptive human mom had suffered the tragic loss of her previous cat, Mikey. Mikey had been an "only child" and was the focus of the human mom's life, and he was loved dearly. Mikey's mom was beyond devastated at his death. She honestly didn't imagine ever being able to adopt another cat because the fear of experiencing this heartbreak again was too overwhelming. Her family and friends encouraged her to adopt again because they saw how deeply sad she was, but she knew she just wasn't ready. After a very long time of grieving and processing went by, she decided to stop in at PAWS just to see how she would handle being around cats again. She thought it would likely be too upsetting, but she decided to be brave and give it a try.

To her absolute surprise... it went well. The younger cats made her laugh at their silly antics, while the older cats appreciated the gentle face rubs. She found herself smiling in a way she had not in a very long time. She filled out an online application for PAWS so that it would be on file for whenever she was ready. A week later, she adopted a 5 month-old kitten whom she named "Grace," (or more accurately, Grace adopted her!.)

Grace is having lots of fun in her new home... her playful toy hunting and laser light chasing keep her owner engaged and laughing, and Grace's bedtime kneading routine ("making biscuits") on her owner's chest is good for the soul. Grace's adoptive human mom's message is this:

"If you have experienced a significant pet loss in your life... take all the time you need to do the hard work of going through the grieving process. But when you are ready, please consider visiting PAWS and adopting a cat that would love a forever home. Your heart is a muscle... It can grow stronger and expand. You might be surprised to find you still have so much love to give."