

March 1, 2018

My Friends

2018 marks the beginning of my 48<sup>th</sup> year in practice. 43 of those wonderful years have been spent with you. I have reduced my hours in the clinic over the past few years and I am now making plans for a full retirement sometime this year.

How often do we remark to ourselves and others about the speed of time. How did the years slip past me so easily and why wasn't I paying attention? I well remember the beginning. My first position in Brockton. The internship in Boston. The struggle with the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Kravitz Family that 'adopted' me. Affiliation with Dr. Andelman and the Westbridge Veterinary Hospital. Painting the shutters for the waiting room. Credence, the Yellow Labrador Retriever, came to work with me and slept in the empty room that would become Exam 2. Operating the clinic by myself and all the extra time I could to give to client and patient. New friends that joined the staff –became family-and never left. And so it went.

I am fortunate to have been given the opportunity to live a childhood dream. And more than fortunate I have been blessed.

Blessed with the support of family who always believed. Blessed with the confidence of businessmen who understood and valued a handshake. Blessed with a staff of friends who shared my vision and stayed the course when I faltered. Blessed with families who trusted me with their precious pets. So many wonderful people I have known.

I am leaving peacefully. I take with me the memories-both bitter and sweet-of patients I have cared about and cared for. I leave behind an amazing competent staff under the guidance of Dr. Botelho who continue to carry forward the vision we opened the door with so many years ago.

Thank you Everyone

Robert S. Brown, DVM