On September 26, 2013, we lost a good friend. Dr. Kevin Wright passed away after a short illness, and this is dedicated to him, in a style he would approve.

In this past year I lost my bearded dragon Cordelia. She was only a few months old with good breeding and husbandry. The illness was peculiar and did not follow typical patterns of common ailments of the species. We ran all the diagnostics at my practice: bloodwork, radiographs, electrocardiography, and echocardiography. Yet, despite all of these diagnostics, we were not able to find a cause for her illness. It was not likely that she had a bacterial infection, fungal infection, parasitic infestation, or any other obvious cause of her death. It was clear that her death was caused by something that was not obvious and not immediately recognizable. Her necropsy, her tissue samples were sent. Not too long afterwards, histopathology confirmed that Cordelia was found to be one of a handful of dragons who had this new parasite. The veterinary field is an ever growing one, and we must always remember to pursue knowledge whenever the opportunity arises. Dr. Kevin Wright was a true friend, to man and beast alike (often concurrently). He was always willing to listen, to lament as well as share joy, to all that wanted. He shared his brilliance and insight with anyone willing to ask for help. Nothing more he ever wanted than to help, to provide comfort, and seek solid answers. He never sought fame, but respect is forever due him for all that he has done as a researcher, a doctor, and most of all, a person.

Kevin, we will always love and remember you.

Looking Under the Hood: The Importance of Necropsy

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Tips, Tricks, and Tools

Using an ultrasound on your patient to locate the heart? I read about this in an old exotics magazine and it works well. Avoid pesky ultrasound gel mishaps by placing ultrasound gel in glove with probe! Much easier to clean up after.

Lauren Keller
Griffin Exotics Veterinary Clinic - Kannapolis, NC

Student Chapters Corner

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