

Janet Jeffers

I said goodbye to an old friend today at her graveside. Then raised a glass to her memory with family and friends which is exactly as she would have wanted.

I first met Janet Jeffers in the late 1970s when we acquired our first Korat kittens at about the same time. Then our paths diverged for some years. I was the husband & 2 kids traditional stay-at-home while she relocated to the Isle of Man where she rubbed shoulders with the rich and famous of the TT world and took holidays that involved speed hiking up Mt Kilimanjaro, and flying home first class on Concorde from a journey to New York by luxury liner.

Almost 20 years on we got together again in the East Midlands and this was the time she took her Maipenrai cattery name and became successfully established breeding and showing. The lure of Isle of Man called again, but with the cats now part of her life she would travel to England, Scotland and Northern Ireland to show. I think it's possible too that at this period there were more GCCF registered Korats and Thais on the island than there were Manx.

It was a fitting tribute to Janet as a Korat breeder that Maipenrai Saphira Sky (11) was BIS Neuter in the recent GCCF Virtual Show, a lovely bit of news to pass on today to her family.

Jen Lacey (Korat & Thai Cat Association)