

EVO'S HOME!

By Melanie Burt-Schipke



See this [story](#) of the tragedy that took the lives of a father and his daughter during their Hawaii visit. Mark Horner was my cousin and Mina was his daughter. After they died, Mina's sister Elsa was given Mina's pet bird, Evo the cockatiel, as a way to work through the grieving process. Many months later, their mom Jess decided she wanted to move the girls (two sisters survived) to Hawaii, her home state, where she had her immediate family's support system. The family could not take Evo to Hawaii so they asked if I would take him, as they only felt good about giving away the pet bird if a family member would take him. Of course, I said yes.



Fast forward a couple years to last fall. Evo was living with me but was not getting the attention he craved due to my schedule and other obligations. I felt guilty about this, so I tried to find a better and more interactive home for him. I would only surrender him to someone I trusted and knew would care for him properly. This was why I ultimately agreed to trust him to Mickaboo.

Evo's first potential adopter was not a good fit. No worries, I thought. I'm going to make sure we do right by him.



When the last potential-adopter family chatted with me about him, it all made sense. He would be a wonderful addition to their family, and after having met them all in person I could not have been more secure in that decision. The children were absolutely delightful and extraordinarily knowledgeable on birds and science. More importantly, they were perfectly calm and appropriate, and they actually reminded me of Mina in many ways.

The day this family adopted Evo and brought him home, an adult friend came to visit. It turned out this friend knew of a girl who had gone to school with her children, and this girl's bird's name was Evo! It turned out the school was Elsa and Mina's Berkeley Rose Waldorf school, and this family knew Mark and Mina! The mother of the two children who just adopted Evo is also a teacher at the Berkeley Rose Waldorf school! So, Evo is back home in Berkeley with a family who knows and loves the same things that Elsa and Mina did.

It really is an amazing circle of events. I'm comfortable in my belief that somehow Mina helped to get her sister's bird the best home ever.