

# Columbus County's 'Lost Souls'

My name is 'Lost Soul' and I am a stray mutt who was picked up by an animal control officer when I was trying to find some food in someone's garbage can. I'm starving, skinny and scared. I'm 3 years old, and my whole life was spent tied to a tree. When my owner moved, he let me run free. I'm not that beautiful. I'm a black lab mix, like many other 'lost souls' here at the pound. Most people will pass me by in the 3 days I am allowed to stay here because of my emaciated body and skin problems. I know it's time to go to Heaven, and I accept this. I wish I could die a peaceful death, but instead, I will die in the gas chamber in Columbus County.

It's Friday now. I am put in a box and locked in. It's dark and I am scared and start to cry. There is a big frightened 'lost soul' next to me, and he's biting me. He just bit that little puppy too. It hurts. I start to breathe in the gas and feel my eyes and mouth start to burn. I'm howling



now. I hear all the other 'lost souls' screaming and blood is spattered on me because I keep trying to get out and have cut the pads of my paws and ripped out my nails. This hurts . . . and I am so scared. Why do I have to die this way? All I ever wanted was a family who would love me. I'd better give into the gas now . . . if I don't, I may not be completely dead when they haul my body out to the landfill to bury me there with all the others. I can't wait to get to Heaven and have all God's angels rub my belly and give me kisses.

**Melissa Kipp**  
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**Gas Chamber Rescue**

**Please don't allow the other 'lost souls' to die this way.  
Call your county commissioner or county manager  
Jim Varner at 640-6600.  
Beg him to allow our county animals to die peacefully  
by lethal injection.**