

Dear John and Mary,

I, having been a rescuer until my illness can only appreciate people like the both of you and just needed to write and tell you. I do still have 19 birds, primarily cockatoos and special needs but to see and feel the love you share with your charges just made me cry. I know that no bird would respond to your handling as they did unless they did feel safe and loved. I listened to your beliefs and I too believe that the children our the future of our birds. They need to understand young. My generation has done such a poor job in protecting habitat and have failed to educate that rescues and sanctuaries are just overfilled beyond healthy capacity. Now I see infighting between rescues and I often wonder what direction this is all going! They dislike breeders but are not willing to intelligently enter into viable dialogue with them in order to figure out some way to find solutions to over breeding, especially cockatoos. Oh my, I have gotten on my soapbox but Mary and John, I just have to say, I wish there were more programs like the one Jack Hanna's done and I also wish there were more people like you. I really and truly felt your passion and dedication. You drew me to tears because every word you spoke is how I feel and if more felt like you do and walk the walk that you do, solutions could be found and the sanity could be restored.

Thank you for being you and if I am ever in Dale Earnhardt's home town, I hope I could come visit and shake your hand.

Cate Clark