

MANSION GLOBAL

Man's Best Friend (Until It's Time to Show a House)

Agents recall trying to sell homes where dogs and even a potbellied pig ruled the roost

Tami Halton Pardee

founder/CEO of Halton Pardee + Partners

Los Angeles, Calif.

The house was in Culver City—a nice modern house priced a little under \$2 million. I went over, nicely dressed—you dress up when you are going over to meet a client—and they had this pet pig. It was huge; it must have been 200 pounds. And it had wiry hair. It was one of those potbellied pigs, it must have been small when they bought it. My grandparents were farmers; they had pigs. I actually really like pigs—on a farm. Not pigs in a house.

It was bizarre. I was sitting there and the pig was right next to me. You have to act like everything is normal, but it was just weird. Everything had a pig stench to it, like a barn. Everything was dirty, like if you were going to a farm and saw floors covered with dirt and hay. The pig had full access to the house—well, the first floor. I don't think it could get up the stairs.

I said, "We have to clean this up. Could the pig go stay with a relative?"

They said, "No, we want the pig to stay here." They even wanted to put the pig in pictures of the house; they said it would make it unique.

I said, "We're not selling the pig, we're selling the house." They seemed not to get it.

I went home and showered after that. I don't think they ever sold their house. I think they took it off the market. They just really loved their pig.