

Tribute


Diablo

DIABLO, A RARE MEXICAN GRAY WOLF, WAS A FAVORITE ON THE PUBLIC ROUTE FOR MANY, MANY YEARS. COUNTLESS VISITORS, BE THEY ADULTS OR CHILDREN, WERE WITNESS TO THE DEEP BOND HE SHARED WITH GYPSY, HIS ENCLOSURE MATE OF 12 YEARS. WE ARE GRATEFUL THAT SO MANY GUESTS LEARNED ABOUT THIS MOST UNIQUE SUBSPECIES OF THE GRAY WOLF, ONE OF THE MOST ENDANGERED MAMMALS IN NORTH AMERICA, FROM OUR STUNNINGLY BEAUTIFUL PAIR.

Diablo was often a participant in our yearly Wildlife Handling course, a class to teach wildlife students and future biologists how to draw blood, administer vaccines and handle wildlife with respect.

Since he was part of the Species Survival Plan (SSP) Program, he needed to be caught up yearly, so this was a wonderful opportunity. I was privileged to have been a student almost 10 years ago with Diablo as my “teacher”, an experience I will never forget.

Here at Wolf Haven, we strive to make the lives of our wolves safe and stress-free, and our hope is that Diablo had a good life, with daily enrichment, companionship and food. He loved food and always bounced in anticipation when Animal Care staff approached with the truck or a bucket. Diablo lived to be 17-years old; he had slowed down a bit in the last few years, having developed some age-related issues and was often in a deep slumber during pm rounds.

His last day at the sanctuary was a peaceful one, with Gypsy by his side. We are all grieving with her and miss him so much; he was well known to many volunteers, students and photo visit participants. With deep gratitude for the many lessons he taught us, we hope that you are at peace Diablo. 

Diablo. *Julie Lawrence.*

Ursula Davis, Animal Care/
Membership Assistant