Tribute



Julie Lawrence.

YPSY ARRIVED AT WOLF HAVEN WITH HER SISTER LOLA IN DECEMBER OF 2005, WHEN THEY WERE JUST YEARLINGS. THEY WERE TRANSFERRED HERE FROM THE RIO GRANDE ZOO IN NEW MEXICO AS PART OF THE SPECIES SURVIVAL PLAN (SSP) FOR THE MEXICAN GRAY WOLF PROGRAM. GYPSY (F907) WAS PAIRED WITH DIABLO (M657). THEY REMAINED TOGETHER ON THE VISITOR ROUTE AS EXHIBIT ANIMALS SO WE COULD INFORM THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE PLIGHT OF ONE OF THE MOST ENDANGERED MAMMALS, THE MEXICAN WOLF.

Her gorgeous markings, beautiful sienna colored fur, along with her expressive disposition impressed visitors young and old. Gypsy was very popular and photogenic. Over the years she dug an impressive den in her enclosure and liked to hide below ground when she felt uncomfortable. After Diablo passed away in 2017, she was introduced to a younger Mexican wolf named Hodari (M1458) so she wouldn't have to be alone;

wolves are very social animals that need companionship, often mating for life in the wild.

Gypsy lived to be 15 years old and she left a legacy for future generations. She taught not only visitors to the sanctuary, but also demonstrated the importance of companionship among wolves.

Although she was part of the SSP breeding program for all of her life at Wolf Haven, she never bore pups and was treated with the least invasive measures possible to ensure a life of true sanctuary. She will be missed greatly.

"Animals, like us, are living souls. They are not things. They are not objects. Neither are they human. Yet they mourn. They love. They dance. They suffer. They know the peaks and chasms of being."

Gary Kowalski, The Souls of Animals



Ursula Davis, Animal Care Assistant/Membership Assistant