



Julie Lawrence.

WITH HIS BRIGHT WHITE FUR, HUGE ALMOND-SHAPED EYES AND LONG THICK SNOUT, LONNIE'S FACE WAS A STRIKING SIGHT DURING OUR MORNING WALK-THROUGH. AFTER TEN YEARS AT WOLF HAVEN, HE WAS WELL ACQUAINTED WITH ANIMAL CARE ROUTINE AND PATIENTLY WAITED AT THE FENCE FOR HIS TREAT. ALONG WITH LONDON, LONNIE WAS TRANSFERRED FROM A RESCUE IN CALIFORNIA IN 2009; HIS CALM AND MELLOW TEMPERAMENT HELPED HIM SMOOTHLY SETTLE INTO THE PEACE OF THE SANCTUARY.

Lonnie loved food of all kinds, from beef loaves to road-kill deer—except chicken, which could sit for hours before he decided to munch on it. Lonnie's favorite meal was definitely salmon. He was dedicated when peeling hard-boiled eggs. Although not as dexterous as some of his neighbors, Lonnie seemed sharply focused as he used his incisors to carefully remove the shell.

Lonnie's gentleness reached other aspects of his life, especially his relationships with his enclosure mates. His first companion at Wolf Haven was Meeka, a large female wolfdog with a dominant character. Lonnie learned when to concede and when to stand his ground, and the two were wonderful friends. After Meeka's passing, Lonnie welcomed Sam into his life. She had also recently lost her mate, so they clicked right away. Though Sam had a more submissive temperament, Lonnie remained gentle and respectful even during Sam's difficult final days.

Lonnie shared his last days with Aponi, a stunning white female wolf who joined him from Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle. Lonnie and Aponi were a brief but beautiful pair. Lonnie introduced her to life in the sanctuary and spent his last couple of days remodeling the master den for her.

Lonnie's sudden passing was not easy to assimilate, but his serene character and radiant presence will be a memory we will deeply cherish for years to come. 🐾

Pamela Maciel Cabañas, Sanctuary Manager & Mexican Wolf SSP Liaison