

## Noah

Our friend Noah has passed away.

It began in late September 2010 when we noticed Noah was having good days and not so good days. We quickly realized these ups and downs were usually associated with feeding. On October 6<sup>th</sup> Noah was brought into the veterinarian's office to determine what the cause was. A cPLI test (canine pancreatic lipase immunoreactivity test) did confirm that Noah's pancreas was functioning abnormally. Our veterinarian recommended changing to a leaner diet for Noah and keeping a close eye on him.

Noah was brought back to Wolf Haven with his new diet, and he did well for several months. However, around the beginning of February we again noticed Noah having ups and downs. These were minor, and Noah was still eating well and acting mostly like himself.

Unfortunately, things would continue to decline. His ups and downs would become more pronounced and he wasn't acting like himself. On March 20<sup>th</sup>, Noah took a sudden turn for the worse. He was brought back out to the veterinarian that day to see what could be done. While we all had thoughts as to what the issue was, we were all surprised when testing revealed that Noah was in ketoacidosis (a diabetic crisis). Noah had begun shedding ketones into his urine and his glucose level was over 440 (normal range is 70 – 143). In addition, blood work revealed that Noah's liver was also being affected. The attending veterinarian believed that the diabetes had been triggered by Noah's bout with pancreatitis last October. Once the pancreas has been inflamed and scars, many times it stops producing insulin.

To turn a situation like this around requires very aggressive treatment, including loads of fluids, twice daily insulin shots, and periodic blood work to assess and adjust insulin levels. While this could be possible with domestic animals, it is much less of a possibility with Noah. Noah is not tractable enough to simply go in and give injections or draw blood; these would require us catching him up and physically restraining him. To eliminate the need to catch him up twice a day, we would have had to keep him confined in his deckpen the rest of his life – a life which would have very little quality to it for a strong spirit like Noah. After carefully discussing options, we decided it was in Noah's best interest to help him pass from this world to the next.

Thank you for your support of Noah while he was in our care. It's thanks to people like you that we were able to provide a caring home for Noah. Without people like you, Noah's parents wouldn't have been rescued from a fur farm, and Noah could have lived a terrible nine months before being slaughtered for his fur. Instead, Noah got to live 12 happy years with companionship, care, and all the food he wanted