

Peyote

Peyote's passing was sudden and unexpected. Up until the day he passed, Peyote had been blessed with great health his whole life. On the morning of October 14, 2011, Peyote suddenly was showing signs of discomfort and was not interested in his morning treats. We realized something must be wrong, so that morning Peyote was caught up and taken to the veterinarian.

The first step was to take a blood sample, which revealed that Peyote was anemic, and his blood platelet count was low. This suggested internal bleeding, so our veterinarian did an ultrasound and found pockets of fluid in his abdomen. A pocket was tapped, and it revealed blood, which helped explain Peyote's blood results. The symptoms were consistent with hemangiosarcoma, a fairly aggressive type of cancer. Hemangiosarcoma often starts on the spleen but can spread to other organs. We opted to do exploratory surgery in the hopes of removing the spleen and hoping it hadn't spread yet. Unfortunately, not long into surgery, our veterinarian found the cancer had already affected Peyote's liver substantially. The prognosis was not good, and after discussing options, it was decided it would be in Peyote's best interest to help him pass from this world to the next.

Peyote was a sweet and caring wolf with a friendly demeanor. His gentle personality certainly shown through in his time he spent with his enclosure mate, Clarice. Clarice will turn 17 next spring. In Clarice's advanced age, Peyote could have easily hoarded food or took more than his fair share, but that was never the case. In fact, Clarice most often ran the show, although Peyote never seemed to mind. He was rather shy around new people, but certainly loved attention from those he had come to trust.

Thank you for your support of Peyote while he was in our care. It is thanks to the generous support of people like you that we are able to provide a lifetime home for Peyote, as well as many other animals that would have otherwise been put down.