

TRIBUTE

Wendy Spencer, Director of
Montana Operations

Shadow

WHEN WE FIRST MET Shadow in October 2010, he was a six-month-old pup who was bred for the pet trade. Shadow had bounced around from home to home, and his story was so compelling that we couldn't say no. Wolf Haven became his fifth and final home.

At the time of his rescue, we were told Shadow was rambunctious... but nothing prepared us for what we encountered. We were greeted by the yaps of an excited chihuahua and chaos ensued. We stood frozen as a blur of black fur zoomed around the house, banking off the sofa, launching onto the dining table, racing back and forth, all while the yappy chihuahua was in hot pursuit. It was quite comical!

As this gangly and goofy, albeit strikingly beautiful, young wolf settled into his new life at Wolf Haven, we spent several months finding him a suitable companion. Finally, in April 2011, female wolfdog, Juno, became Shadow's forever friend and the two developed an unwavering, lifelong bond filled with playful chases and never-ending howls.

It's not often we are afforded the opportunity to watch a young wolf move through life, as most rescues come to us as adults. While Shadow always maintained his mischievous side, it was a gift to watch him grow and mature as he came into his own and developed a sense of "self." One of the most memorable wolves on the visitor route, Shadow was known for always wanting to have the last word during group howls. Quintessential Shadow. His voice in the sanctuary will always be missed.



Shadow, 2010. JULIE LAWRENCE.