TRIBUTE

Pamela Maciel, Sanctuary Director & Mexican Wolf SAFE Liaison

WW ITH A COAT AS DARK as a new moon night, and a spirit so playful and bright, Willow was an unforgettable sight.

In only their first year of life, wolfdog pups Willow and Senna were the recipients of two big acts of human compassion. After the person who purchased the sisters as "pets" realized how difficult they were to manage, they wanted them killed. But their lives were saved when a kind man intervened. The man and his wife tried everything they could to provide for the pair, but they soon realized Willow and Senna needed a larger space and professional care.

Willow and Senna arrived at Wolf Haven in 2014, and from that moment on, the sisters' antics were an experience to behold. They were noticeably vocal and bickered about anything you could possibly imagine: marrow bones, the splash tub, enrichment items, the day bed one made but the other one wanted, neighboring wolves, the decayed tree they finally managed to destroy. Their interactions were so ostensible, they were often the talk of the staff, and seemingly of their canid neighbors too. It wasn't unusual for them to trigger a sanctuary howl.

After Willow lost Senna to cancer in the summer of 2023, she was never the same. Unknown to us, Willow had been enduring the same malady and followed her sister soon after. The two were inseparable in life, and chose to stay that way. We know they are together again, somewhere peaceful and beautiful. Maybe still bickering... most likely so.

Willow