



Wolf Haven

Tala – companion & father

WALKING SLOWLY UNDER LAURELS AND OAKS, a large striking cinnamon-colored wolf approaches his family. He playfully paws at a yearling son's face, leans his body towards a group of siblings energetically wrestling around him, and then greets his companion with a series of sniffs and gentle muzzle licks.

During his ten years at Wolf Haven, Tala (red wolf M1482) was a testament to the richness of life inside a wolf family unit.

After being transferred to our sanctuary in 2010, Tala spent his first years sharing an enclosure with Ruby (F1480). Following Ruby's unexpected passing, Tala was paired with Nash (F1945), a young and perky female with whom he would become bonded for the rest of his life. In 2017 and 2108, upon being selected for two consecutive years as a breeding pair by the red wolf

Species Survival Plan program, Tala and Nash became parents of a numerous family, raising a total of 12 offspring. A dedicated father, Tala spent months helping take care of the pups, sharing food with them, watching over them, playing and patiently allowing the little stumbly creatures to crawl over him

during their early explorations. That connection remained strong for years to come; even as young adults, Tala's sons and daughters seemed to make sure their dad took part in collective activities, including chasing games and bouncy playtime.

As his golden days arrived and his physical strength declined, Tala had to be separated from his energetic young kids. He and Nash retired together in a quiet enclosure neighboring their offspring. The family group never ceased to communicate with each other, and their powerful joint howls were heard until Tala's very last day.

Tala's captivating presence and stories touched many hearts. His legacy will live long, through his vibrant family and through all of the humans whom Tala continues to deeply inspire.



Tala, front and slightly off-center, was a testament to the richness of life inside a wolf family unit. *Julie Lawrence.*

Pamela Maciel, Sanctuary Manager