# Tribute

# Carosal

**"WHO'S THE COYOTE I CAN SEE THROUGH THE WINDOW?" ONE OF OUR NEW VOLUNTEERS ASKED ONE DAY. I POLITELY REPLIED THAT YOU COULDN'T SEE ANY ANIMALS FROM THE GIFT SHOP – THE WOODEN FENCE AROUND THE SANCTUARY PREVENTED ANYONE FROM SEEING INTO THE ANIMAL ENCLOSURES. "NO, I PROMISE I SAW ONE OF THEM!"**

Feeling smug, I asked her to come with me to the window so I could show her how the fence blocked the view – and of course, as I was talking, up popped Carosal. She had jumped up into the crook of a large tree in her enclosure – just high enough that she could look over the fence. "Oh… *that* coyote" is all I managed to say.

I like to imagine that Carosal took delight in proving me wrong that day. She always seemed to have an air of superiority about her – like she was the smartest and cutest animal in the sanctuary and she knew it.

But Carosal also had a tough side – she was always in charge, took no guff, and even loved to posture and trash talk to her wolf neighbors. Although tough, she was never mean. Carosal used to live with two male coyotes that both had physical issues (Jimmy was slightly handicapped and Os was missing an eye and was epileptic). She was in charge of both, but never took advantage of them. After Jimmy and Os both passed away, she took young, orphaned male coyote Cody under her watch as well.

Sadly, 13-year old Carosal passed away unexpectedly during the night of January 18. This took us all by surprise as she had been acting completely normal until then. We brought her to the clinic for a necropsy, but there were no concrete answers. There were some abnormal findings in her GI tract, a few small nodes on her liver, and a little free blood in the abdomen. However, none of this was conclusive enough to know for sure the ultimate cause of death.

Carosal may have been a small coyote, but her passing has left a large hole in the sanctuary. Rest in peace, Carosal. You will be missed.

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*Carlos Castañeda.*

*Julie Lawrence.*