

# Marius (1990 -2005)

*Daniel Curry, Animal Care Specialist*

On October 12, 1993 the Wildlife Science Center gave Wolf Haven an amazing addition to its wolf family... His name was Marius.

Marius was born on April 15, 1990 and he came to us as a

mate for Sung, another wolf here at Wolf Haven. After Sung passed away On October 6, 1996, Marius needed a mate, as did Morning Star, another wolf in our sanctuary who lost her mate, Rouge, on January 31, 1994. Marius was physically astounding... a large wolf with rich amber eyes that would peer down to the depths of your soul and he was an extremely intelligent friend of mine, not to say that the other wolves at Wolf Haven aren't. You could see in his eyes that Marius was always thinking and noticing things in his environment and I believe he could read your deepest intentions to find out if they were kind or not, to see if you were worthy of

his trust. His innately cautious personality was probably due, in part, to his lineage. His father was a wild wolf from Montana, naturally cautious of humans... What I call a "built in trust issue." Marius was a good judge of character and it was an honorable challenge to try to earn his trust – a challenge I was happy to accept. If he found your intentions to be true of heart, and decided to trust you, then it was an honor to carry proudly.

Marius always had physical problems, particularly with his central nervous system and his bones. As these lifelong ailments finally caught up with him, his quality of life began to diminish and he was having trouble standing up from a prone position. In the last couple of days of his life he had a hard time walking around and on November 29 it seemed that, although Marius did not want to give up, his body just let go. The animal care staff and veterinarian considered Marius' options and with his best intentions in mind the choice to euthanize was made. I remember the last time my friend Marius looked at me with those dark rich amber eyes and seemed to know that our intentions were true of heart. We will all miss you my friend Mar-Mar.

