

## TRIBUTES

Chris Lemons

# M'ijo

Time here at Wolf Haven is often marked with great joy at the arrival of new wolves. Equal to the joy we feel at the arrival of a new animal is the pain we feel at the loss of an old friend. It is with a heavy heart that I am informing you of one such time that occurred this past April, the unfortunate passing of M'ijo, long time mate to Angel.



M'ijo. Photo by  
Julie Lawrence.

M'ijo's journey in our world began in spring of 1993 when he was born in Canada. At a mere 10 days of age he was taken from his mom and sold in an illegal pet trade to people in California. At the age of 6 he began showing signs of aggression toward people and so his life here at Wolf Haven was to start. He was brought here in 1999 and paired with a young female wolf, Angel. M'ijo and Angel warmed up nicely to one another, but M'ijo's shyness toward people prohibited him from being on tour. M'ijo and Angel spent the next six years together, playing and enjoying one another's company.

M'ijo showed no apparent signs of illness. He was found one morning by Animal Care Staff collapsed on the ground and was rushed to the emergency Vet. During a medical exam blood was found in his ab-

dominal cavity. A decision was made to prevent further suffering and, as a result, M'ijo is no longer with us. It was not until a postmortem exam revealed that cancerous tumors had invaded his body... It's difficult to lose an animal such as M'ijo, a favorite of several of our staff. He had a wonderful personality, endearing gaze, and a playful demeanor. He will be missed by all who knew him.

## Nooksack

It is with sadness that we report the loss of one of our beloved animals, Nooksack. Affectionately called Nook, she was a wolf-dog hybrid that had been at Wolf Haven since April of 1992. Nook has, by far, one of the most interesting stories of arrival at Wolf Haven some 13 years ago. Nooksack holds the distinction of being a wild caught animal. It is suspected that Nooksack was, at some point, privately owned. She was spotted roaming the streets and wilderness areas in Washington where she was captured by government officials. Rather than allowing her to be destroyed Wolf Haven decided to offer Nooksack a permanent home. She always greeted her caretakers and meals with excitement. While the original plan of having her on tour never came to fruition, she was a much-loved part of the Wolf Haven family. Nooksack will be missed by all those who came to know and love her.