

4th Annual Vigil4Elephants January 15, 2022

Biography Booklet Of Elephants Who Died in Captivity in 2021

Standing in solidarity with organizations and individuals around the world to remember those Elephants who suffered and died in captivity during 2021.

We will start the vigil day with an online Facebook event on “The Action Hour” hosted by Lindsey Baker for *Jane Unchained News*.

Please join the vigil team to start off this solemn day:

Time: 10:00 a.m. Pacific / 11:00 a.m. Mountain / 12:00 Noon Central / 1:00 p.m. Eastern

REMEMBERING THESE ELEPHANTS WHO DIED IN CAPTIVITY 2021

SHARIMA	RAO	LUCKY	DELHI	KIRSTY	MOTOMEI	LINDA	SHIRLEY	DIXIE	BUFFY	LUMA	
KAING THEIN	BURMA	KIRON	DAISUKE	DAYA	JUNG	UNSHANIDRABY	ZIMBA	LUCAS	RANI	THABO	
MENJKA	TAI	POOLY	MINISTAR	PADRA	BURMA	KIRAN	M'CHANGA	LAYABE	NIBAU	TENDI	
MARY	MAVA	ANI BWE LAY	BERE	ANDRA	HANDA	SHENNA	PRINCE	MAE NOI	THORW	BIRMA	
ARKAIDA						AND SANCTUARY DEATHS <small>Elephants who died in the wild or in sanctuaries between January 1st and January 31st, 2021</small>					
HAPPY	PANG FAI	SHIRLEY	FENYA	VINITA	BAI CHAI	MAGGIE	DANI	ARUN REAH	THONGKHOON	KARMA	GAEW YA

Vigil4Elephants Founding Organizations:



4th Annual Vigil4Elephants

Co-Hosts:

*We thank them for the incredible work they each do year round
to help better the lives of elephants*

Abriendo Jaulas & Abriendo Mentes
Action for Elephants UK
American Friends of Elephant Haven European Elephant Sanctuary
Animal Advocate Alliance
Animal Advocates Radio "Voices Carry For Animals"
Animal Lives Count Coalition
Arte for Elephants
CAL-Comite Animales en Libertad
Cambodia Wildlife Sanctuary
City's Fighting for Elephants and Rhinos
Ecoflix
Elefantes Unidos Del Sur
Elephant Guardians of Los Angeles
Elephant Haven European Elephant Sanctuary
Elephant Nature Park
Elephant's Helpers
Elephants Austin
Elephants in Japan
Free All Captive Elephants
Free the Oregon Zoo Elephants
Friends of Ruth & Emily
Friends of the Elephant
Gentle Giants
Global March for Elephants and Rhinos
Global Sanctuary for Elephants
Heart of Ganesh
In Defense of Animals
Jane Unchained
LA for Animals
Lucy's Edmonton Advocates' Project
Massachusetts for Elephants

My Dear Elephant
Nonhuman Rights Project
Progress for Science
Rally for Animal Rights Environment
Rhino and Elephant Defenders (RED) Toronto
Sanelie Art
Save Elephant Foundation
Save Elephants Australia
Save Nosey Now
Stews 4 Elephants
The Elephant Advocacy Project
The Positive Pachyderm
Trunks Up
Veggies Do It Better
Voice for Asian Elephants Society
Voice for the Animals in Los Angeles
Western MASS Animal Rights Advocates
World Elephant Alliance



Death in a Zoo

Queenie was her name, considered old
at 32, bored and sad, staring
through barred zoo prison. Twice had
an elephant companion, twice
lost to cracked feet and infection;
she stood alone for decades.

Public zoo, elephant bank-sponsored
billboards and signs to incite confidence,
not depicting loneliness, standing, swaying
on concrete indoors and out, no grass
to touch, no trees within reach.

Hay and water, the mainstay, school groups
walked by, shouting, laughing, and
mothers with stroller-ed toddlers, kids
on father's shoulders – none understood
her solitary existence, shooting pain
constant in her feet and legs.

When she went down, zookeepers hoisted
Queenie to her feet, vet was called, remedies
tried, but inside she was already dead, eyes
blank, *let me go*, they seemed to plead.
They only saw lost revenue – she gave up,
final sigh, reaching for freedom never known.

Julie A. Dickson

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- Section IV.** Elephants who died in the wild during 2021

***Our candles are lit for each one
of these beautiful souls***



Section I.

Elephants who died in zoos and circuses during 2021



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Sharima
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia (Indonesia possibly)
Birth Date:	1995
Date of Death:	January 9, 2021
Location of Death:	Lujan Zoo, Argentina
Age at Death:	26
Cause of Death:	Fell into a pit

Sharima, a female Asian Elephant, was only 26 years old at the time of her death. It was reported by local activists working to rescue her that Sharima suffered from undiagnosed and untreated health problems, and she died shortly after falling into the pit that surrounded her enclosure.

Sharima endured a life of suffering, "broken" at a young age at the Way Kambas Elephant Training Center in Lampung, Indonesia, sold to an Indonesian zoo, and then later sent to the infamous Lujan Zoo in Argentina. Her companion Elephant died in 2005, and Sharima lived in solitary confinement since. She was subjected to bullhooks and chains, exploited for the public to ride and take pictures, and rented like a prop for parties and commercials.

Dear Sharima, you lived an intolerable life of abuse, trauma and exploitation. Your only escape was death. We extend our deepest gratitude to the local activists in Argentina who worked tirelessly for your release to the Global Sanctuary for Elephants in Brazil, where a loving home awaited you. We will never forget, and your memory will inspire us all to continue our work to end captivity.

RIP Sharima, we will not let your life be in vain. May you now have all that was denied you here on Earth.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Phang Thongkham
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia (possibly Thailand)
Birth Date:	Unknown
Date of Death:	January 17, 2021
Location of Death:	Krabi Elephant Hospital, Thailand
Age at Death:	Unknown
Cause of Death:	Unknown

Phang Thongkham, a female Asian Elephant of unknown age, passed away on January 17, 2021, in the Krabi Elephant Hospital, Thailand. Little is known about Phang Thongkham's life. She was living in the Phuket Elephant Sanctuary when she became very ill and weak. She was transferred to the Krabi Elephant Hospital where she soon died despite efforts made to save her life, as reported by Lek Chailert of Elephant Nature Park.

RIP Dear Phang Thongkham, may your beautiful spirit be free. You represent so many like you, held in captivity your entire life, working for humans in the tourism, entertainment, or logging industries. May others like you find some peace in sanctuary as you did and may we learn to protect all wildlife in their natural homes. Our greatest hope is that one day wildlife sanctuaries will no longer be needed because the practice of holding captive wildlife will be relegated to history.

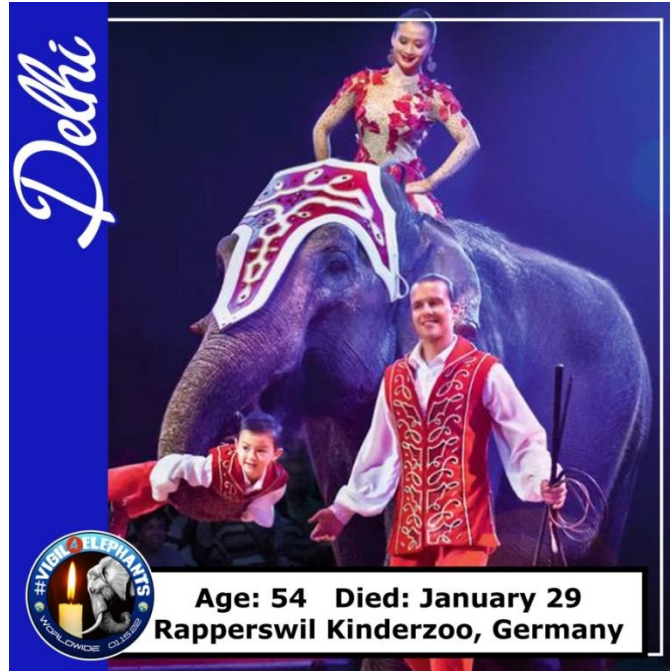


Deceased Elephant's Name:	Lucky
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia (possibly Cambodia)
Birth Date:	Around 1941
Date of Death:	January 18, 2021
Location of Death:	Mondulkiri Project, Cambodia
Age at Death:	80
Cause of Death:	unknown

Lucky, a female Asian Elephant, died in the Mondulkiri Project Elephant Sanctuary on January 18, 2021. There is conflicting information on Lucky's age at the time of death. We do know that Lucky was a captive, working elephant, either in logging or forced to give rides to tourists. She was brought to the Mondulkiri Project in May of 2015. While this "sanctuary" appears to have an element of tourist entertainment (walking, bathing and swimming with the Elephants), it at least does not allow Elephant riding.

It is unknown at this time how Lucky died. Most likely she died (like most working elephants) due to years of brutal training and abuse, unrelenting work, utter exhaustion and the resulting health issues.

Dear Lucky, you represent so many who suffer and die as working elephants, held captive in the logging, temple and tourist industries. We hope that someday all elephants will live free from human exploitation and enslavement. RIP Lucky, may you roam free and safe forever.



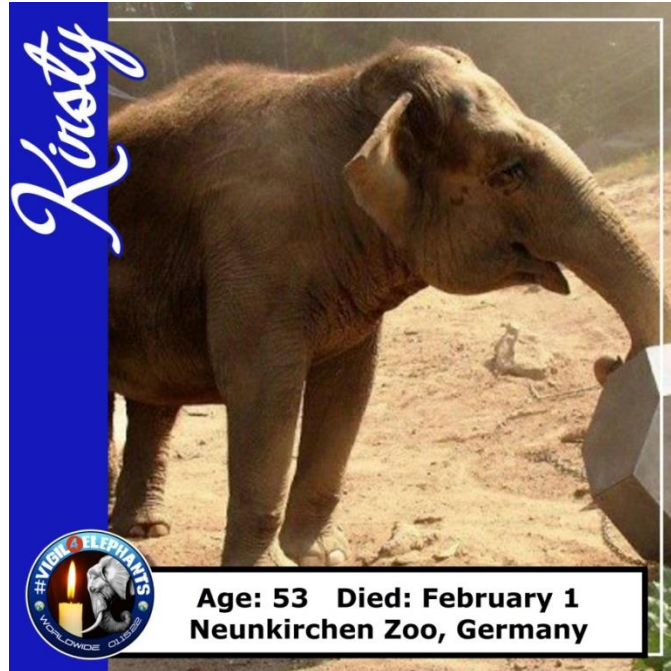
Deceased Elephant's Name:	Delhi
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Captive born
Birth Date:	March 1968
Date of Death:	January 2021
Location of Death:	Knies Children's Zoo, Switzerland
Age at Death:	54
Cause of Death:	"old age"

Delhi, a female Asian Elephant, bred in captivity, was forced to perform in traveling circuses for most of her life. In or around 2016, she was transferred to an entertainment-based zoo in Switzerland where she died at the age of 54. Information from the zoo focuses on Delhi's popularity and skills as a performer and claims she died of old age.

Based on current research, we know that 54 is relatively young for an Asian Elephant, who can live up to 80 years in the wild without human interference. It is highly likely that Delhi succumbed to the common captivity related causes of death, arthritis and foot disease, brought on by years of standing on hard surfaces and performing unnatural tricks to please the crowd, not to mention the brutal training she endured at a very young age.

Dear Delhi, we know this was no life for an Elephant. We recognize and mourn what was stolen from you. You lost your birthright to home, community, self-determination and freedom because humans wanted to be entertained. We will remember the majestic being you are.

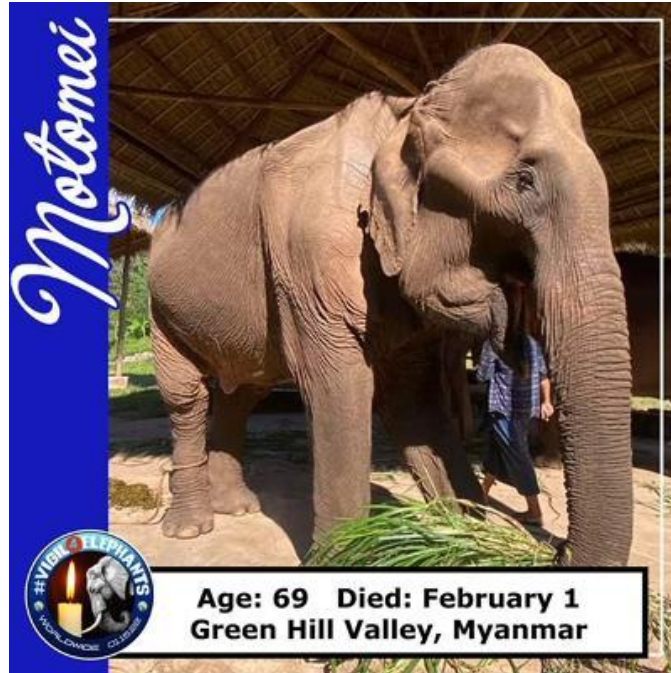
RIP Dear Delhi. May you now roam free.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Kirsty
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	India
Birth Date:	Around 1967
Date of Death:	February 1, 2021
Location of Death:	Neunkirchen Zoo, Germany
Age at Death:	Around 54
Cause of Death:	Euthanized due to cancer

Kirsty, an Asian female elephant, was euthanized on February 1, 2021, in the Neunkirchen Zoo, Germany. She was born in India and transferred to a zoo in Scotland at about 5 years old. Transferred from zoo to zoo during her life, she was brought to the zoo in Germany in 2005 where she lived out her last few years in pain due to cancer. A tragic life and common example of the sad existence for elephants forced into captivity.

Kirsty: we mourn your passing and all that was stolen from you in life. May we all come to understand the birthright of wild beings is freedom, the absolute necessity of protecting the last wild places, and the essential role wild elephants play in the ecosystem of our planet. We will remember you, Kirsty, and continue our work in your name and the names of all those forced to suffer and die in captivity. Roam free beautiful one, may you know only love and comfort now.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Motomei
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Myanmar
Birth Date:	1951?
Date of Death:	February 1, 2021
Location of Death:	Green Hill Valley Elephant Camp, Myanmar
Age at Death:	69
Cause of Death:	unknown

Motomei was born in the Taungoo region in Myanmar. She spent many years as a logging elephant hauling giant bundles of wood. Because of a ban on logging, Motomei's owner was no longer able to handle her, so in 2016 she was retired to Green Hill Valley Elephant Camp. For the last five years of her life, she had a much more peaceful life, free of the heavy burdens she had carried for so long. Her mahout, Shine Aung also died in January of 2021.

There is no information available about any births she may have had, or what her life was like as a logging elephant. Like so many elephants in captivity, she was exploited until she was old. Motomei was 65 when she finally had a chance to experience some semblance of freedom at the Elephant Camp.

RIP Motomei. Your life was hard, and your years of respite short, but at least you had some rest in your life. We will always remember your enduring spirit.



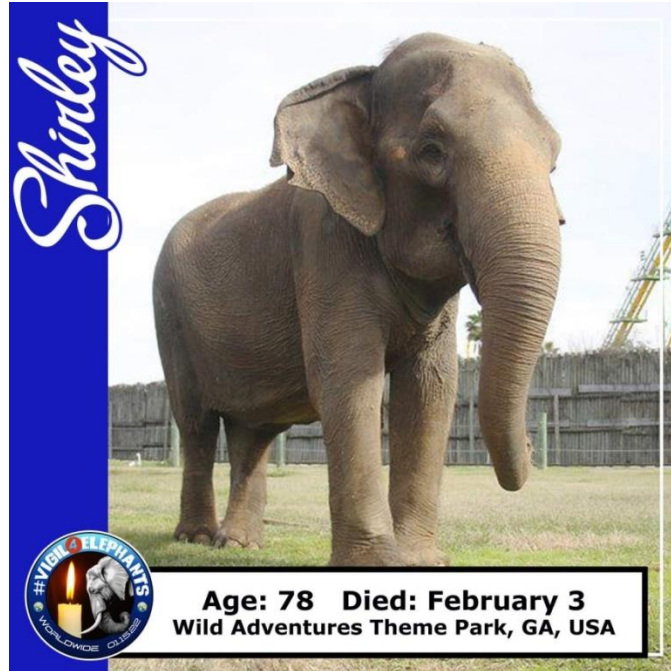
Deceased Elephant's Name:	Linda
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Africa, location unknown
Birth Date:	1985
Date of Death:	February 2, 2021
Location of Death:	Zoo Poznan, Poland
Age at Death:	35
Cause of Death:	Collapsed and died. Cause Unknown.

Linda, an African female only 35 years old, was euthanized after suddenly collapsing on the floor of her enclosure at the Poznan Zoo in Poland. She was unable to rise, even with assistance from the fire department. The Poznan Zoo reported that they were unable to determine the cause of death and would provide more information after a post-mortem examination.

There is little information available about Linda's life before captivity, however, it appears she was wild born. The zoo claims she came to them from an "elephant orphanage", which most likely means her family was killed and she was sold to the zoo as an infant.

The Poznan Zoo plans to burn Linda's tusks to bring attention to elephant poaching. Her skull will be put on display in a museum of history, and the exhibit may include a 3D copy of her tusks.

RIP Dear Linda, we remember who you really are, not a living exhibit in a zoo or a museum display. Your right to live in your home with your community was stolen and we grieve for what was lost. May you now roam free forever, far from the bars that imprisoned you on Earth.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Shirley
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Sri Lanka
Birth Date:	1943
Date of Death:	02/02/21
Location of Death:	Wild Adventures Theme Park, Valdosta, Georgia, USA
Age at Death:	78
Cause of Death:	age

Shirley was believed to be the oldest living Asian elephant on record in North America. She was captured in the wild at age two and spent the next 40 years shuffled back and forth between a number of circuses. In 1995 she was retired to Wild Adventures Theme Park in Georgia, USA where she lived alone as the only elephant in the park. Shirley had a sweet tooth and was given a breakfast of pop tarts every morning. The park attributes this diet to her long life. In her early days, she starred in the live action film *The Jungle Book*. And as a circus performer she would have been trained to do many tricks. Her training would have started early when she was still a toddler using ropes to pull her to the ground, bull hooks and other implements of coercion.

In "retirement" Shirley was still entertaining, this time visitors to the park instead of circus goers. She was the star attraction at the park and was given birthday parties and treats at Christmas. Her biggest treat would have been retirement to a sanctuary, sadly that was not to be.

RIP Shirley. You were ripped from your home and your family to perform for profit for your entire life. You no doubt dreamed about your former life in the tropics of Sri Lanka nurtured by your loving mother and family. At last you get a much needed break from your long life as an entertainer in captivity.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Dixie
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia
Birth Date:	1965
Date of Death:	Sometime in February, 2021
Location of Death:	The Preserve, Texas, USA
Age at Death:	56
Cause of Death:	Kidney failure?

This Bio needs to be updated if more info becomes available

Dixie, a female Asian Elephant, died at The Preserve, an entertainment facility in Fredericksburg, Texas. The Preserve is owned and operated by the infamous organization formerly known as Have Trunk Will Travel (HTWT), in the business of exploiting Elephants for profit. Forced to leave California due to the bull hook ban (which went into effect on January 1, 2018), HTWT moved their operations to Texas where they continue to force their Elephants, including Dixie, to perform for the public. Dixie was forced to perform tricks and give rides under threat of the bullhook for years, and just prior to her death PETA reported that Dixie appeared emaciated and lame. No information on Dixie's death has been released by HTWT, instead they have deleted all mention of Dixie from their website and social media. There is speculation that Dixie died of kidney failure.

Dear Dixie, you lived a life of fear, trauma, exploitation and suffering at the hands of humans who cared only for their own entertainment and profit. While the exact cause of your death may never come to light, it is clear that you were another victim of captivity. Elephants do not belong in captivity and it is impossible to meet their enormous needs even under the best of circumstances. We will remember you Dixie and continue to stand against all forms of wildlife captivity. May you RIP and be forever surrounded by love, comfort, and open spaces.

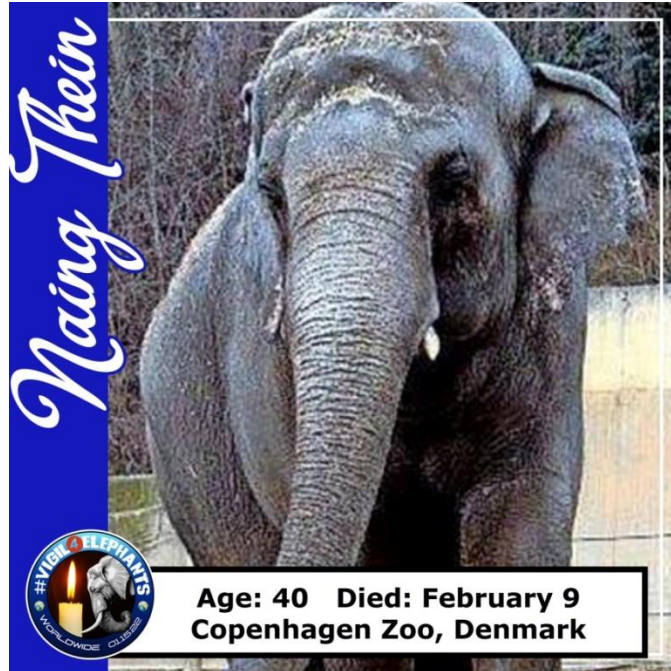


Deceased Elephant's Name:	Buffy
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Africa
Birth Date:	1982
Date of Death:	February 5, 2021
Location of Death:	Monterey Zoo, California, USA
Age at Death:	39 Years
Cause of Death:	Blood poisoning

Buffy, we understand that you had many days of suffering from abdominal pain. You were alone, in pain, on the "floor of a barn." Your life and your death were unfair and this roadside zoo – all roadside zoos – can not and will not ever be able to provide for your care. We would like to add that the Monterey Zoo has lost elephants under horrific circumstances and we hope the last elephant will be transferred to sanctuary.

We grieve for your loss but know you will not be forgotten.

Rest In Peace, Beautiful Buffy.

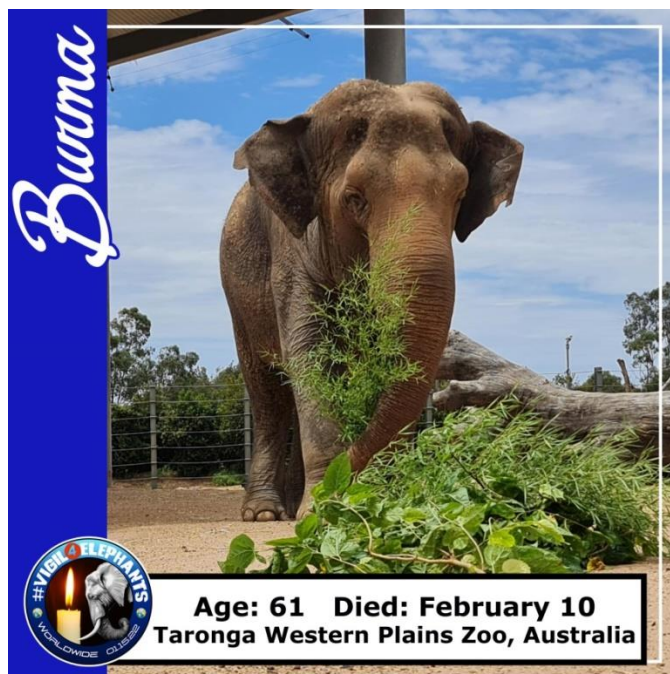


Deceased Elephant's Name:	Naing Thein
Gender:	Male (Bull)
Birth Country:	Myanmar
Birth Date:	09/26/80
Date of Death:	February 9, 2021
Location of Death:	Copenhagen Zoo, Denmark
Age at Death:	40
Cause of Death:	Euthanized

Naing Thein, also known as Nagathan and Bully was born somewhere in Myanmar in 1980 and then in 1988 transported by boat from Rangoon, Burma to Rotterdam. He ended up in the Copenhagen Zoo. He sired 20 babies, 12 of whom are dead, many at just days or months old.

It is not known why he was euthanized at the fairly young age of 41. What was his life like at the zoo and what was it like for him to be taken at 8 years old and shipped far from his home and family? We can only speculate and imagine it was a severe disruption in his young life.

RIP Naing Thein, you deserved to live your life as elephants should, free and wild as nature made you, you will not be forgotten.



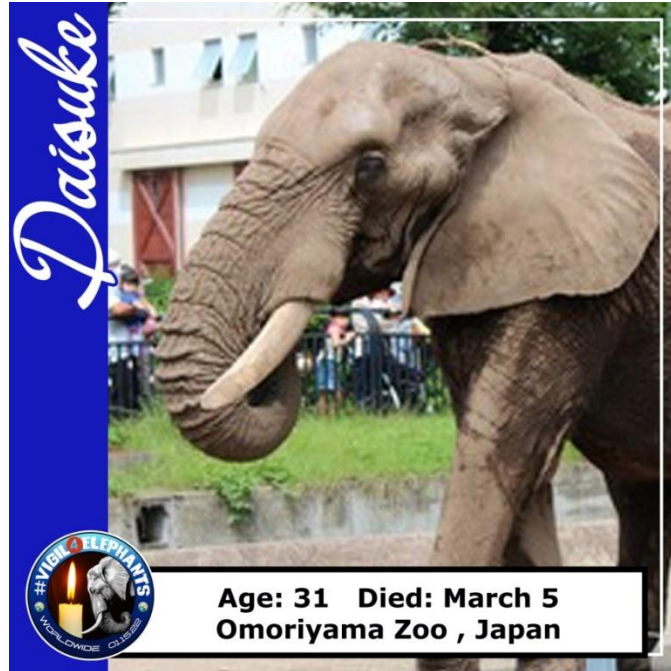
Deceased Elephant's Name:	Burma
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia
Birth Date:	1959?
Date of Death:	Feb 10, 2021
Location of Death:	Taronga Western Plains Zoo, Australia
Age at Death:	61
Cause of Death:	degenerative joint disease.

It is not known where or exactly when Burma was born, but she was sent to an Australian zoo in 1961, at 2 or 3 years old. She lived in a zoo in Sydney for 25 years, and then was transferred to her final destination, the Taronga Western Plains Zoo in Dubbo.

Her keepers report that she was not overly affectionate but intelligent and enjoyed working. "Burma was a hard worker, enjoyed having a throw of the football, doing a blow painting or showing off her signature "kneel" move." Since these activities are not what elephants would choose to do, she was obviously trained to perform; what means of persuasion were used is not known, though elephant keepers often use ankuses, bull hooks. She was the first elephant to be trained by novice elephant trainers at the zoo, and it is clear from their notes that she sometimes gave them a hard time and would refuse to repeat an activity more than once. No pregnancies are mentioned, and it is not known if the zoo attempted to breed her.

The zoo called Burma "an ambassador for her species." This is what zoos often say about their animals. But Burma, instead of being an ambassador in a zoo, would have much rather been allowed to stay with her maternal herd and roam free as all female elephants are born to do.

RIP Burma, somewhere in Asia, a mother's heart was broken when you were so cruelly taken from her. You deserved so much more than the long years in captivity you endured.

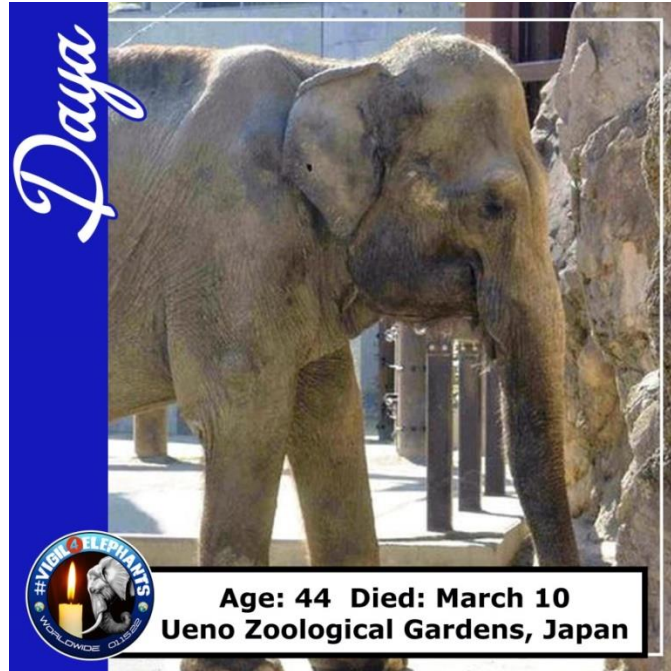


Deceased Elephant's Name:	Daisuke
Gender:	Male,
Birth Country:	South Africa
Birth Date:	1989
Date of Death:	March 5, 2021
Location of Death:	Omoriyama Zoo, Japan
Age at Death:	31
Cause of Death:	Foot and digestion issues

Daisuke, a male African elephant, was brought into the Omoriyama Zoo located in Akita, Japan, in 1990 from South Africa. He was only about 1 year old. Daisuke suffered from a foot deformity from a young age, and as he got older and gained weight, his joints swelled causing walking difficulties and severe pain. He also had issues with digestion. Early on the morning of March 5, Daisuke fell in his enclosure and never got up again. Less than 10 hours later he was pronounced dead of the most common cause of death for Elephants in captivity: foot and joint disease. Daisuke was only 31 years old.

Dear Daisuke, it seems you lived in extreme pain under the unbearable conditions of captivity. As a nursing infant, you were separated from mother and herd (you should have remained within your herd under the constant care of mother, grandmothers, and aunties until you were an adolescent bull), and forced to live far from home, always in pain. You never had the chance to learn how to be a bull elephant from the elder bulls of your homeland. Instead, you died a painful death in a foreign place, with everything that makes life meaningful for an elephant stolen from you.

RIP Daisuke. May you find it in your magnificent heart to forgive us and may we finally learn that you and your kin do not belong in captivity. May you now roam wild and free, the magnificent African Bull Elephant that you were meant to be.



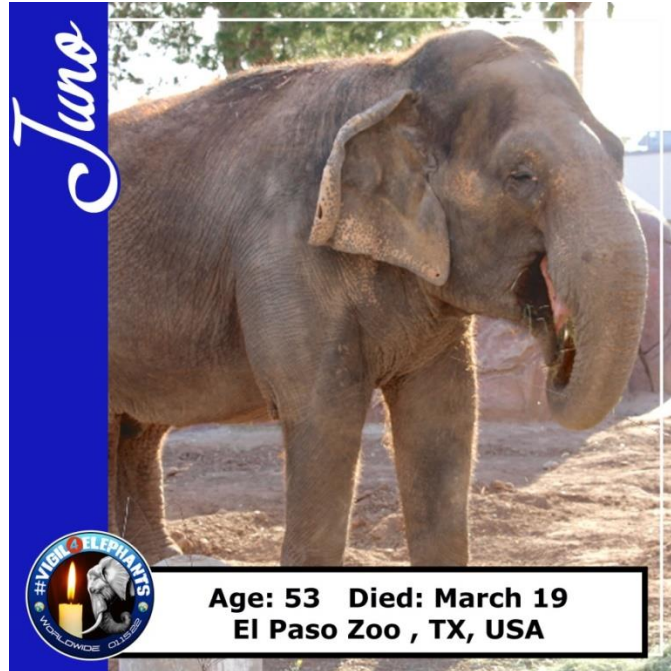
Deceased Elephant's Name:	Daya
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Possibly India
Birth Date:	Estimated 1977
Date of Death:	March 10, 2021
Location of Death:	Ueno Zoological Gardens, Japan
Age at Death:	Estimated 44
Cause of Death:	Anemia and weight loss

Daya, an Asian female, was a gift to Japan from the Prime Minister of India in 1984. Her estimated year of birth is 1977 and she was about 44 years old when she died of anemia and decreased kidney function (as reported by the zoo). The zoo also stated that Daya was suffering from loss of appetite and other unnamed symptoms since the end of last year. It appears from the limited records that Daya was taken from the wild somewhere in or around India.

She leaves behind three other Asian Elephants at the Ueno Zoological Garden, located in Taito Ward, Tokyo, Japan, including Arun who was born in 2020.

Daya's story is all too common for the endangered Asian Elephant. They are traded between zoos and countries like commodities, rather than respected as the magnificent, wild beings that they are.

May Daya's untimely death in unnatural surroundings, far from home and family, be a reminder that elephants do not thrive in captivity. They belong in their natural habitat where they are a keystone species, playing an essential role in the life of our planet. May we protect them, preserve them, and respect their birthright of freedom. RIP Dear Daya. We will remember you and work to end the system that caused you to die so young. May you now roam free forever.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Juno
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia
Birth Date:	1968
Date of Death:	March 19, 2021
Location of Death:	El Paso Zoo, Texas, USA
Age at Death:	53
Cause of Death:	Breast cancer

Juno, a female Asian Elephant, was brought to the El Paso Zoo in Texas, USA, on April 16, 2002 at the age of 35. She was donated to the zoo by the Center for Elephant Conservation located in Polk City, Florida and affiliated with Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus. The zoo reported that Juno was born in the wild. Little is reported about her life from birth until her arrival at the El Paso Zoo, however, it is safe to assume that Juno was stolen from the wild and brutally trained and forced to perform in the circus.

In October of 2016, Juno was diagnosed with breast cancer, one of the only known cases of cancer in an elephant. She underwent four years of invasive treatment, including electro chemotherapy and surgery. After years battling a disease foreign to Elephants, Juno, in severe pain (the zoo reported her pain medications had no effect at the end of her life) was euthanized. Only death could relieve her suffering.

Dear Juno, may you RIP. Our hearts are broken from the pain and trauma you endured during your time on Earth. May you know only comfort, peace, and freedom now, far from the humans who hurt you. Run free sweet Juno, may your memory serve as a reminder that Elephants do not belong in captivity.

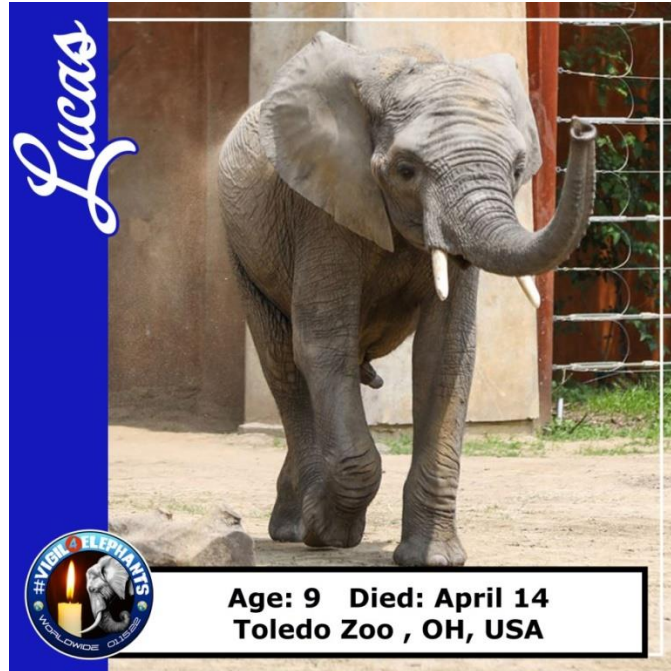


Deceased Elephant's Name:	Zimba
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Zimbabwe
Birth Date:	1982
Date of Death:	April 10th, 2021
Location of Death:	Opel Zoo, Germany
Age at Death:	39
Cause of Death:	peritonitis

Zimba, a female African Elephant held in the Opel Zoo in Kronberg, Germany, was taken out of Zimbabwe and brought to the zoo at the age of only 2 years old. She lived her entire life on display for human entertainment and profit. She died prematurely from peritonitis, a painful inflammation of the inner wall of the abdomen. Zimba's lifelong companion, Wankie, brought to the zoo from Zimbabwe with her, died 7 years ago.

Zimba, your life illustrates the tragedy experienced by so many of your kind, taken from home and family as an infant and forced to live in an unnatural setting without the space and community essential for Elephants to thrive and be Elephants. May you now walk wide open spaces in the freedom denied to you on Earth.

RIP dear Zimba, we will remember you and who you were meant to be.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Lucas
Gender:	Male
Birth Country:	Africa
Birth Date:	2011
Date of Death:	April 14, 2021
Location of Death:	Toledo Zoo, Ohio, USA
Age at Death:	9 Years Old
Cause of Death:	Elephant Endotheliotropic Herpes (EEHV)

Another youngster perishes in a zoo environment from Elephant Endotheliotropic Herpes virus (EEHV), which as we know, is a common virus in the elephant captivity world. According to the zoo, the virus was discovered on April 7. Treatment began quickly (regular blood transfusions).

According to the Toledo paper, "Lucas captured attention when he was born in 2011 in part because captive births of African elephants are very rare in the US. The Zoo held a naming contest for him and the name Lucas won in a landslide, capturing more than 3,000 of the 8,000 or so votes submitted to the contest."

Lucas, rest in peace. You had decades ahead of you if only you lived in your own environment. We understand we are leaving a brother, Louie, who was born in 2003 who was sent to Omaha in 2017. You also leave your mother, Renee, who we can only imagine, will grieve for you always.

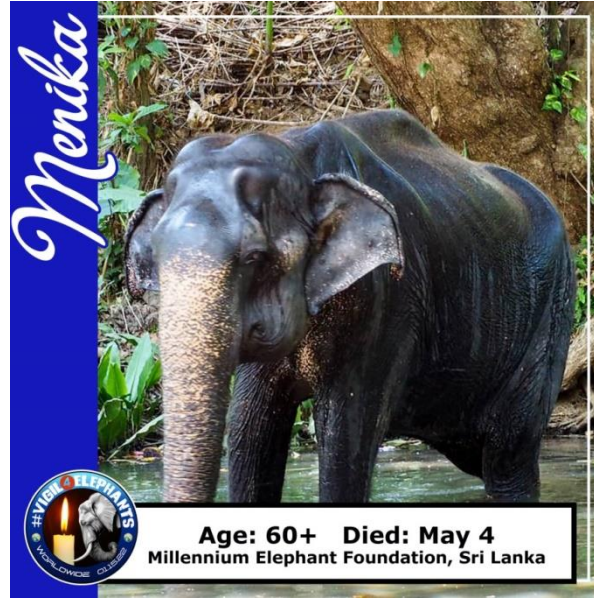


Deceased Elephant's Name:	Thabo
Gender:	Male
Birth Country:	Captive born, Amersfoort Zoo, Netherlands
Birth Date:	September 25, 2017
Date of Death:	April 28, 2021
Location of Death:	Amersfoort Zoo, Netherlands
Age at Death:	3 Years Old
Cause of Death:	Endotheliotropic Herpes Virus (EEHV)

Thabo, a male Asian Elephant, dead at the age of 3, was captive-born in the Amersfoort Zoo in the Netherlands. He died of Endotheliotropic Herpes Virus, a herpes virus common in captive Elephants and almost always fatal to Elephants under the age of 8. Thabo deteriorated quickly and was euthanized on April 28, 2021. Another baby Elephant, Yunha, sister to Thabo, died of this virus at the same zoo in 2020.

Dear Thabo, may you rest in the knowledge that your short, captive life was not in vain. We will share your story in the hope that humans will wake to the simple fact that Elephants do not thrive in captivity. Not only does captivity cause immense physical, mental and emotional suffering, but the captive breeding of Elephants is not successful. Elephants in zoos are dying faster than they can be bred, as your tragically short life illustrates.

RIP Dear Thabo, we hold you, and the family you left behind, in our hearts. May the call for freedom that weaves through your story reverberate around the world.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Menika
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia
Birth Date:	Unknown
Date of Death:	May 4, 2021
Location of Death:	Millennium Elephant Foundation, Sri Lanka
Age at Death:	Unknown, over 60
Cause of Death:	Unknown

There is very little information on Menika, one of the many who lived and died in captivity. Born about 60 years ago in Asia, it is unknown if she was born into captivity or captured from a wild herd. At some point, Menika was “rescued” and brought to the Millennium Elephant Foundation, an organization on a 15 acre estate in Sri Lanka that cares for captive Elephants. It appears that Menika was dearly loved by her caretakers, who posted upon her death: “It is with great sadness and a broken heart that we have to inform you that our beloved Menika/Monica took her last breath today. We have tried to get her up but with no success. We made it as comfortable as possible for her. At 5:39 pm, she closed her eyes and took her last breath while being surrounded by her mahout, volunteers and other staff and friends who all loved her dearly. You will be missed so much dear Menika; you were kind, sweet and the most beautiful soul walking this planet.”

Unfortunately, to raise the money to care for the Elephants at Millennium Elephant Foundation, they offer tourists the opportunity to walk with and bath the Elephants, and it appears they still allow Elephant riding. We hope these activities will be phased out so that the Elephants can enjoy a true sanctuary experience without catering to human wants. However, Elephants have enormous needs and require tremendous funds and resources for their care. Without support, a small organization may find it necessary to raise funds through tourist activities.

Dear Menika, may your story shed light on the simple fact that it is up to every member of the public to stop Elephant suffering. If there is no demand for activities that subjugate Elephants, then such activities will cease. Instead, we must focus our resources on providing true sanctuary for Elephants already held in captivity while protecting the right of Elephants and all Wild Ones to live in their natural homes without human interference.

RIP Menika, may you walk in freedom now. You and your kin deserve no less.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Tai
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia (specific location unknown)
Birth Date:	1966
Date of Death:	May 7, 2021
Location of Death:	The Preserve/HTWT, Fredericksburg Texas, USA
Age at Death:	55
Cause of Death:	Unknown reported as "a brief illness"

TAI: While many millions of people may have seen Tai in the movies like "Water for Elephants" or on HBO's "West World," too few saw the price she paid and the suffering she endured day in day out. Tai was wild born in 1966 (some sources say 1968), location unreported, taken from her wild family and sold into captivity as a baby. In 1979, she was ultimately sold to Kari and Gary Johnson with Have Trunks Will Travel where she was carted all over the United States forced to perform tricks, give rides, and perform in TV and movies under constant threat of physical punishment. The extreme brutality Tai endured at the hands of her owners was exposed in 2005 in an undercover video where Tai, and her companions Dixie, Rosie and Becky, were being beaten with bullhooks, shocked with stun guns and were routinely left chained for more than 12 hours a day.

After California banned the use of bullhooks, the Johnsons moved to Texas and rebranded their operation "The Preserve," a sham elephant retirement "preserve" where the elephants continue to be used for stunts such as bathing, painting, standing on their heads, and playing instruments, all while being prodded by trainers wielding bullhooks. Tai died reportedly "after a brief illness", just months after her companion Dixie died. After 40 years, how did Tai's owners mark her passing? They just deleted her information from their web page. Poof, gone, like she never existed. It was nearly a month after advocates confirmed and made public that Tai had died, did her owners ever even acknowledge her death. Tai deserved so much better than to be a prop in a movie and exploited under constant threat of physical punishment for entertainment and profit.

Tai is beyond our help, but her companions Kitty, Rosie, and Becky continue to live at The Preserve and are still used for public entertainment and pay to play encounters. All animals used for entertainment suffer a miserable life of fear, abuse and deprivation. They don't have the freedom to choose what they would enjoy.

YOU CAN END THEIR MISERY:

Don't attend events where animals are used for rides, photo props or petting.

Tell family, friends, neighbors, colleagues about the cruelty and ask them to boycott these events, too.

Tell event organizers you don't approve of wild animal events and entertainment.

Find out more about our investigation of Have Trunk Will Travel: <https://bit.ly/HTWT-investigation>

Watch and share ADI's video 'No Fun for Elephants' narrated by Bob Barker: https://youtu.be/QYjrjQ_SGak



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Pooly
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	unknown
Birth Date:	January 18, 1991
Date of Death:	May 16, 2021
Location of Death:	Ichihara Elephant Kingdom, Japan
Age at Death:	30
Cause of Death:	Unknown, suspected poisoning

Pooly, (also known as Pulley and Puri), was sent to the Ichihara Elephant Kingdom in 2002. It is unknown where she was before that time. She was born in the wild in 1991. Was Ichihara her first captive facility? What is certain is that she was one of 11 elephants at the zoo in Japan, where she was managed in free contact, with bull hooks.

The zoo according to Tokyo Travel is especially popular for its elephant shows which feature 11 elephants. Visitors can feed the animals, ride them, and interact with them. Pooly had three babies; the last one born in 2018, still has no name.

Around May 12, six elephants became ill. All six had similar symptoms, such as loss of appetite, lack of water, lack of stool, and hunger. Pooly and another female, Ministar, 35, both died. The zoo is investigating the deaths, however, a local veterinarian, Mr. Shigehisa Kawakami, suspects poisoning since all six had the same symptoms and after an autopsy, he found there was bleeding in the intestines.

RIP Pooly. Your life was cut short and you endured what no elephant should ever have to experience: the loss of your freedom and the indignity and pain of being used as a source of entertainment for profit.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Ministar
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Thailand
Birth Date:	1986
Date of Death:	May 16, 2021
Location of Death:	Ichihara Elephant Kingdom, Japan
Age at Death:	35 Years
Cause of Death:	Unknown, suspected poisoning

Ministar was taken from her home in the wild as a one year old and sent to the Ichihara zoo in 1987. She lived with 11 other elephants. She, along with the other elephants, was trained with bull hooks to interact with the public, including giving rides. Visitors could also feed the elephants. On May 14, Ministar and four other elephants became very ill, loss of appetite and diarrhea were two of their symptoms. Two days later, Ministar and another female, Pooly, both died from this sudden severe illness.

Instead of closing the zoo, in order to investigate the source of the suspected poisoning, and protect the remaining elephants from a similar fate, the zoo is still open, still allowing visitors, including children to touch and feed the elephants. World Animal Protection, an animal welfare organization based in 14 countries around the world, has announced that 12 zoos around the world with harsh shows should be closed immediately and one of them is the Ichihara Elephant Kingdom.

Animal Liberator, which started a change.org petition to have the elephants removed to safety and to halt the abusive treatment of the elephants, conducted six surveys and has retained and released images of excessive beatings and training of elephants using bullhooks, and they state that many people have reported sloppy animal management and abuse at the facility. There was also witness information that the elephant was beaten and bleeding from his head, and the audience was shocked.

RIP Ministar. As if being ripped from your home and your mother as a one year old wasn't bad enough, you endured years of brutal training to entertain the public and bring profit to the Ichihara zoo. We will never forget you and your tragic life and death.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Padra
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia, unknown location
Birth Date:	Around 1959
Date of Death:	June 2021
Location of Death:	Elefantenhof Platschow, Germany
Age at Death:	Around 62
Cause of Death:	Captivity and abuse

There is very little information on Padra's early life. It appears she was born a wild Elephant in an unknown area of Asia, was captured as an infant and forced into the circus. She was transferred from Circus Corty Althoff in or around 2010 to Elefantenhof Platschow, a German facility where tourists can touch, feed and ride the Elephants and where the Elephants are forced to perform circus tricks, play tug of war, and pull sleds for human amusement.

In June of 2021, Padra was finally able to escape this torture through her death at the age of about 62. The cause of death has not been disclosed. She lived her entire life being treated as an object for human pleasure and profit.

Dear Padra, may you rest in in the knowledge that your story will be told in the hope of ending the type of abuse you endured for years and years. We know you were a sentient, intelligent individual who belonged in the wild, with your family and community, living the natural life of an Elephant.

Our hearts are broken by the pain, suffering and humiliation you experienced every single day. RIP Padra, may we learn from you. May we learn to do better.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Burma
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	unknown
Birth Date:	1968
Date of Death:	June 2021
Location of Death:	Augsburg Zoo, Germany
Age at Death:	53
Cause of Death:	Euthanized due to Osteoarthritis

Burma, a female Asian Elephant, was brought to the Augsburg Zoo in Germany in or around 1988. Prior to arriving at the zoo, Burma was forced to perform for the Knie Circus in Switzerland. There is no information on where or exactly when Burma was born. Burma leaves behind Targa, her companion of about 33 years.

Burma suffered from osteoarthritis and due to her deteriorating physical condition, despite years of medical treatment, the zoo euthanized her in June, 2021.

Dear Burma, your tragic story is the all too common result of holding an Elephant in captivity, forced to perform in a circus and live on exhibit in a zoo. Arthritis and foot disease are the leading causes of death in captive-held Elephants. These ailments, rarely if ever seen in the wild, are caused by not enough space and hard surfaces, unavoidable elements of captivity.

RIP Burma, we honor your life and all that was stolen from you. And dear Targa, we hold you in our hearts as your mourn the loss of your friend.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	M'Changa
Gender:	Male
Birth Country:	Captive-born, Boras Zoo, Sweden
Birth Date:	August 11, 2008
Date of Death:	June 18, 2021
Location of Death:	Noah's Ark Zoo Farm, England
Age at Death:	12
Cause of Death:	Killed by another Elephant

In the early hours of June 18, 2021, M'Changa, an African Bull Elephant held in the Noah's Ark Zoo Farm in Wraxhall, England, was fatally injured as he slept by another Bull Elephant at the zoo. M'Changa was only 12 years old. According to a statement by the zoo, three Bull Elephants, M'Changa, Shaka and Janu, had lived together in the same enclosure for over three years.

M'Changa arrived at the Noah's Ark Zoo Farm facility in 2014 from Boras Zoo in Sweden, where he was born into captivity. Janu, about 6 years old, was also captive born. Shaka, about 30 years old, was captured in Kruger National Park, South Africa at the age of 2.

This devastating story illuminates the tragedy of holding wild animals in captive conditions that cannot meet their physical or social needs. Without the community and social learning inherent in a wild Elephant herd, these Bulls, two born in captivity and one captured from the wild as an infant, had no way to learn how to live in a bachelor herd and they had no place to escape or avoid conflict.

M'Changa's death was not caused by the other Elephant. M'Changa's untimely and brutal death was caused by human interference in the natural world.

Dear M'Changa, may you now roam with the freedom and space you need to be the majestic Bull Elephant you were born to be. And may you find it in your heart to forgive us for not recognizing your birthright during your short time on Earth. RIP M'Changa. We will remember you.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Latabe
Gender:	Female
Birth Country	South Africa – born wild
Birth Date	1992
Date of Death	July 3, 2021
Location of Death	West Midlands Safari Park, UK
Age at Death	28
Cause of Death	Cardiac issue, autopsy to be performed to confirm

Latabe, an African Savannah elephant was born in the wild, orphaned at near birth, and lived in the Kruger National Park in South Africa until she was 5 years old. At that time, the park considered her to have outgrown the orphanage where she was raised, and so she was transferred to the West Midlands Safari Park in the UK. She arrived with another elephant named “Five” who she was close companions with, and at the Safari Park she served as an 'aunt' to Sutton - the first elephant to be born at West Midland Safari Park in its 41-year history.

The staff at Midlands Park and all the safari visitors deeply mourned her passing, but of course her mother would have mourned it much more, though it is not known what happened to her mother.

Was she killed by a poacher and that's why Latabe ended up an orphan at Kruger National Park? So much is not known about this sweet, companionable elephant who like so many other captive elephants, did not have a chance to live with her family and experience the free elephant way of life in her native country. She adapted the best she could by making friends and nurturing and protecting a young calf who greatly benefitted from her loving care.

RIP Latabe, your gentle kind spirit will always be cherished and remembered.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Mary (or Marry)
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Sri Lanka
Birth Date:	1990
Date of Death:	July 23, 2021
Location of Death:	Tokushima City Zoo, Japan
Age at Death:	31
Cause of Death:	unknown

At just six years of age, Mary, who had been living at the Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage in Sri Lanka, was brought to the Tokushima Zoo in Japan. A male companion, Ranga, came with her, but Ranga died suddenly in 2008, leaving Mary all alone in her tiny enclosure for the last decade of her life.

According to Elephants in Japan, Mary seemed to have pain in her back leg and had lesions all over her skin—probably from rubbing against the walls of her stall.

Despite her pain, when her keepers fed her, they forced her to sit down in her cage for 30 seconds—a demonstration of their control. Mary was kept indoors for most of the day (approximately 18 hours) in her tiny indoor stall. She coped with her stress by continuously rocking her body back and forth.

Dr. Keith Lindsey, a wildlife biologist, visited Mary in 2017 and observed that she was obese and exhibited profound stereotypical behavior. A few days before her death zoo staff reported Mary had lost her appetite. The cause of her death is under investigation.

RIP Mary, you were yet another casualty of captivity who suffered physically and emotionally, all alone for years with not a single elephant friend to keep you company. We will honour you by always remembering you and your short, sad life.

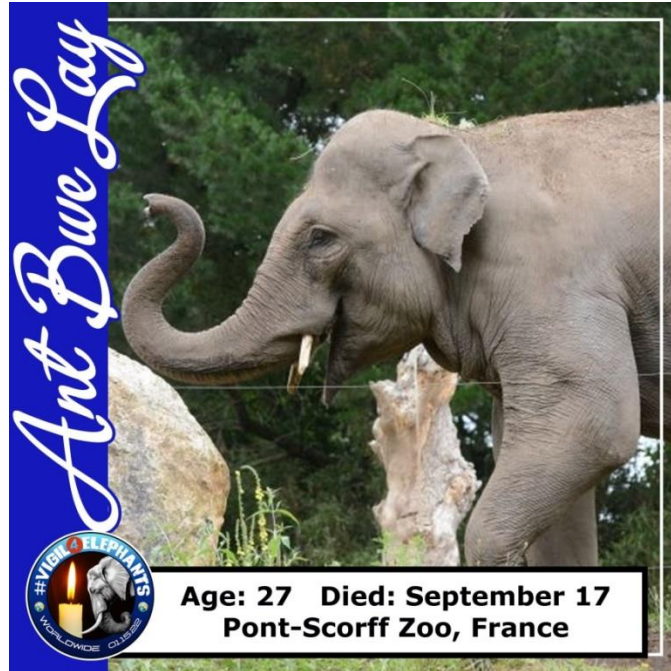


Deceased Elephant's Name:	Mala
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Africa
Birth Date:	1985
Date of Death:	July 30, 2021?
Location of Death:	Platschow Elefantenhof (Sonni Frankello) Germany
Age at Death:	36
Cause of Death:	Lymphatic cancer

Mala was born in Zimbabwe in 1985, and was captured and shipped to Europe as at around 3 and ended up with the Frankello family. For many years she had to do tricks as a circus clown. At Platschow Elefantenhof, she was still exploited and forced to do tricks to entertain the public. At this entertainment facility, the staff is quoted as saying, "Mala is calm and balanced and likes public appearances." It's hard to believe Mala enjoyed the rigorous training that goes with learning circus tricks. She fell into a river on one of her many touring jobs; PETA had reported that she suffered many abuses.

Mala's sad short life is over, no more parading or standing on her hind legs to entertain the public.

RIP Mala, your strong spirit and gentle manner will never be forgotten.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Ant Bwe Lay
Gender:	Male
Birth Country:	Emmen Zoo, Netherlands
Birth Date:	August 23, 1994
Date of Death:	September 2021
Location of Death:	Pont-Scorff Zoo, France
Age at Death:	27
Cause of Death:	Euthanized due to illness, most likely TB

Ant Bwe Lay, a captive-born, Asian Bull Elephant, led a short, heartbreaking life. He was born on August, 23, 1994 in the Emmen Zoo in the Netherlands, far from the home of his ancestors. As an infant he was used in a commercial for Rolo Chocolate.

At the age of only 6, he was transferred from his family and the only home he knew to the Pont-Scorff Zoo in France where he was used for breeding. Records indicate he had two offspring, one died at birth and the other at the age of one.

At the age of only 27, Ant Bew Lay was euthanized due to an undisclosed illness. He had previously tested positive for tuberculosis, a common problem for captive-held Elephants.

Dear Ant Bwe Lay, your story illustrates the suffering, trauma, illness, and early death caused by captivity. We share your story now in the hope that humans will learn from your life cut short, and the tragically brief lives of your children, that Elephants do not thrive in captivity. May we learn to protect you and all Wild Ones in your natural homes where you belong. RIP Ant Bwe Lay, secure in the knowledge that you will be remembered, your story will be told, and your life mattered. May you now walk as the free and majestic Bull Elephant you were meant to be.



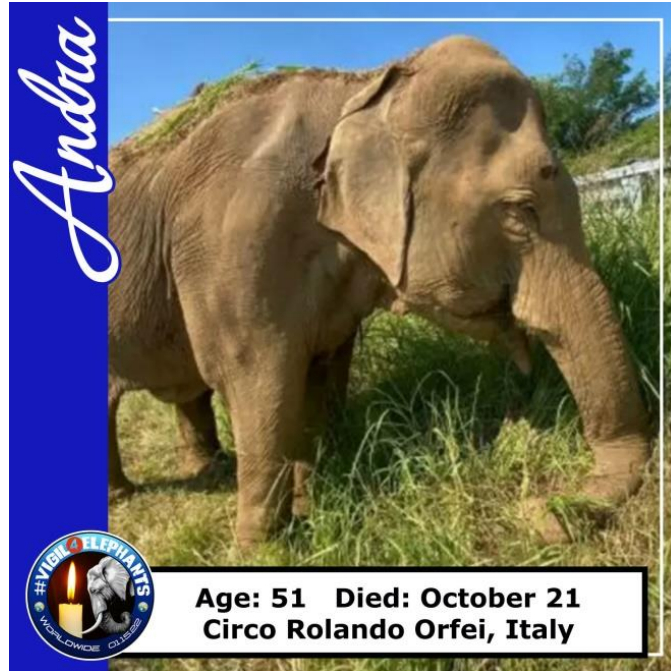
Deceased Elephant's Name:	Bere
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Africa
Birth Date:	1975
Date of Death:	October 14, 2021
Location of Death:	Belo Horizonte Zoo, Brazil
Age at Death:	46
Cause of Death:	General infection

Bere was an African savannah elephant, captured at just two years old. She lived her entire life in captivity at a zoo in Brazil. She came to the zoo as an exchange of animals. She had four calves with the male Joca. Beré's first baby, born in 1983, a very difficult birth and the vets performed surgery to take out the dead baby. Her last baby, born in 1996, was also stillborn.

Bere died from an infection but she had also been under veterinary care since July 5th after developing uterine and lung problems. This is all that is known about Bere.

How she lived at the zoo, what friends she had, or how she dealt with the loss of her two babies is not known. What is certain is that Bere, like all zoo elephants, had a very restricted life, with little to do, crammed into a small space, and with no opportunity to experience her life like the wild female elephant she was born to be. Instead, she was forcefully removed from her mother and extended family and shipped across the world to a foreign land.

RIP Bere. Your sad life has come to an end, but you will always be remembered and honored for your proud spirit and fortitude in enduring decades in confinement.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Andra
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia
Birth Date:	1959
Date of Death:	October 19, 2021
Location of Death:	Circo Rolando Orfei, San Paulo, Italy
Age at Death:	63
Cause of Death:	Uterine cancer

Andra was born “somewhere in Asia” and her estimated birth year is 1959. She was wild caught and apparently shipped to the circus in Italy where she lived for the remainder of her life. In 2009, she made headlines for reports of mistreatment during a circus tour in Greece. The images had aroused such indignation among citizens that the Greek government decided to ban the use of animals in circuses.

Italy, however, allowed Andra to still be used in exhibitions despite her advanced age of 63. So she kept doing tricks to entertain circus audiences even though she had been critically ill with cancer for a long time, and circulatory problems made it difficult for her to even walk.

According to an Italian animal rights organization, Lav, “Andra has been exploited to the last fragment of energy.”

Andra never had one opportunity in all of her 63 years to experience life as part of a matriarchal herd or to roam and forage and make friends; to live free like the wild elephant she was born to be. We will always remember her enduring courage to face the trauma and many hardships of circus life.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Sheena
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia
Birth Date:	1971
Date of Death:	November 22, 2021
Location of Death:	Phoenix City Zoo, Phoenix, Arizona, USA
Age at Death:	50
Cause of Death:	Osteoarthritis and gastrointestinal problems

"Beloved," you were called by The Phoenix Zoo on Monday, November 22, 2021. You were "beloved," dear Sheena. Sadly, you were not beloved enough for this zoo to realize that the full potential of your life could be better spent at a free roaming, safe and certified elephant sanctuary.

According to the *Arizona Republic* media, Sheena "had been carefully monitored for chronic osteoarthritis and gastrointestinal issues, but was stable before her death." We can only hope that at least some of her pain had dissipated but we will never know.

The article goes on to say that "her dedicated and caring keepers found her laying down in her barn and unable to rise, and she passed shortly after of natural causes," the Zoo's post said.

Further, "according to the Zoo's website, Sheena was with the Phoenix Zoo for 21 years, arriving in 2000 from the Ringling Brothers Center for Elephant Conservation. Prior to the conservation center, Sheena performed at Busch Gardens in Tampa and then moved to the Miami Zoo, according to an article in *The Arizona Republic* in 2001."

We remember you, Sheena, and our wish is for you to Rest In Peace and comfort.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Prince
Gender:	Male
Birth Country:	Asia
Birth Date:	Year 2000
Date of Death:	December 8, 2021
Location of Death:	Kolmården Zoo, Sweden
Age at Death:	21 months old
Cause of Death:	Unknown

Here is a news report that was just published in Sweden media.

Let us say that 21 months old is another tragedy in the captive elephant world. You will see that this poor elephant was a "gift," but his life was cut short by a life in enclosure. RIP young one.

"Royal baby elephant Prince is dead - Kolmården in mourning"

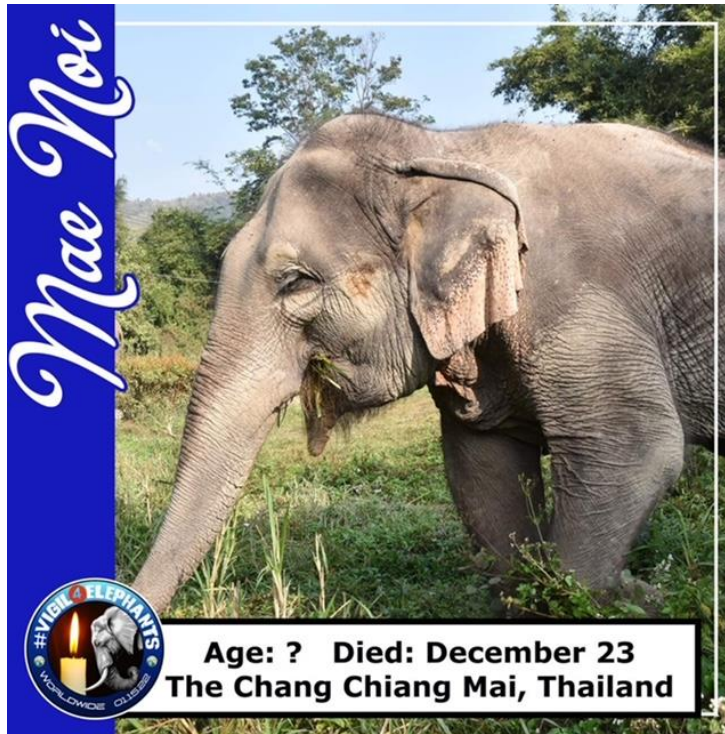
"UPDATED TODAY 11:23 PUBLISHED TODAY 08:19 <https://www.svt.se/>

King Carl XVI Gustaf's elephant cow and Danish Queen Margaret's elephant bull child Prince have died. This is announced by the Kolmården Zoo in the municipality of Norrköping.

According to a press release, it was on Friday that Kolmården's veterinarians noticed that the baby elephant Prince was not feeling well. Since then, they have tried various treatments and watched over the elephant. But his life could not be saved. Kolmården states in the press release that they are in mourning.

Ever since his birth, Prince has been loved. He has given such joy, not only to us who work at Kolmården but to all our guests. It is a great sorrow for the herd of elephants, all the caretakers who have taken care of him since birth and for all of us who have experienced his wonderful personality at Kolmården. Our playful and mischievous elephant boy is missing us, says Christine Karmfalk, CEO of Kolmården.

It is still unclear what caused the baby elephant's death, but the body has been sent to the Swedish Veterinary Institute (SVA) for examination. Prince was a kid to King Carl XVI Gustaf's elephant cow Bua and Queen Margrethe's elephant bull Tonsak, both gifts from the King of Thailand."



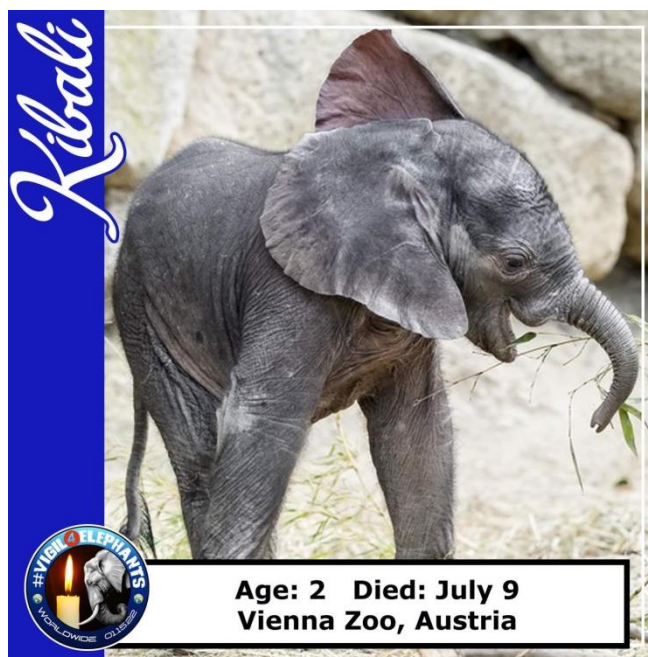
Deceased Elephant's Name:	Mae Noi
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia
Birth Date:	?
Date of Death:	December 23, 2021
Location of Death:	The Chang Chiang Mai, Thailand
Age at Death:	?
Cause of Death:	Internal Organ Failure

We do not have much information on this beautiful Grandmother, so here are a couple updates from The Chang Chiang Mai in Thailand:

December 21st UPDATE: "Mae Noi. Noi has now slept for over 24 hours. Our veterinary team are concerned that she has been laying down too long. We hope she will wake soon and be able to stand up by herself. If she has difficulty standing, the crane from Save Elephant Foundation is ready to assist. Noi is receiving IV fluids to keep her hydrated and give her energy. Thanks again to Lek Chailert and Save Elephant Foundation for their assistance."

December 23 UPDATE: "Mae Noi passed away shortly after 4pm this afternoon, from internal organ failure. Our veterinary team did all they could to save her. She had fought hard to stay with us, but in the end she couldn't fight anymore. Rest in peace, old girl. We're going to miss you so much."

RIP dear one.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Kibali
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Africa – born in the wild
Birth Date:	July 13, 2019
Date of Death:	July 9, 2021
Location of Death:	Vienna Zoo, Austria
Age at Death:	2 years old
Cause of Death:	Unknown

Dear Kibali,

You were so young! A “toddler,” as many of us would say.

“Shock at Zoo Vienna: the young elephant Kibali suddenly dropped to the floor and was dead. A huge loss for the zoo in Vienna and conservation worldwide,” reports the media.

Two Years Old. Dropped Dead. To die at such a young age causes a tremendous hole in the hearts of all of us on Vigil day – and every day. We can only hope that zoos will come to their senses and realize that elephants should not be living in such stressful conditions.

We remember you today, little Kibali.

RIP eternal peach.

Please know that a candle is lit for you.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Tendi
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia
Birth Date:	July 19, 1998
Date of Death:	July 20, 2021
Location of Death:	Kharkiv (Kharkov) Zoo, Ukraine
Age at Death:	23 years old
Cause of Death:	Euthanized: possible dysplasia of the knee joints

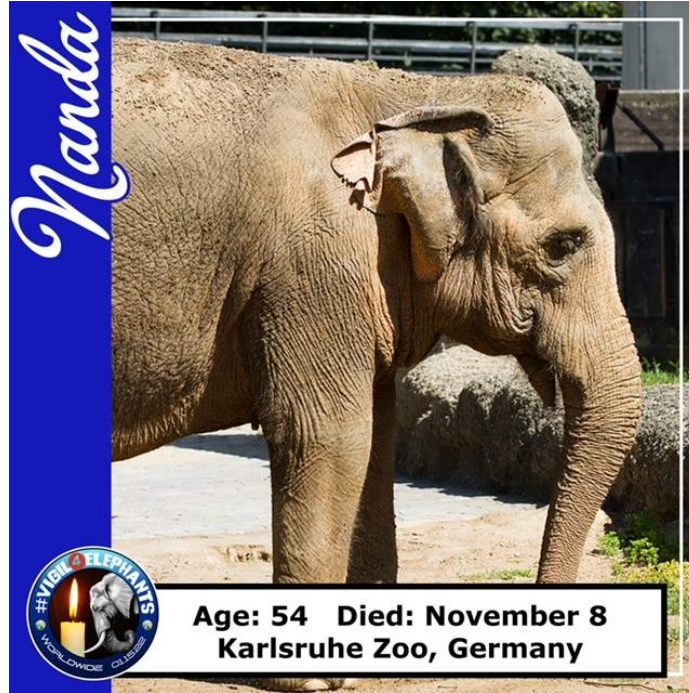
Dear Tendi,

You arrived at the Kharkiv (Kharkov) Zoo in the year 2000.

You were born captive at the Odessa Zoo. You were the precious baby of father Taryn and Mother Vendi (Vendy).

We cannot imagine any decency of life at this zoo for you, for any elephant. Joint problems, arthritis are sure-tell signs that you did not receive enough exercise for your physical well-being.

RIP, Tendi. Humans let your young life fall through the cracks but may your rest be peaceful now. Our thoughts are with you as we read your story and light a candle for you.



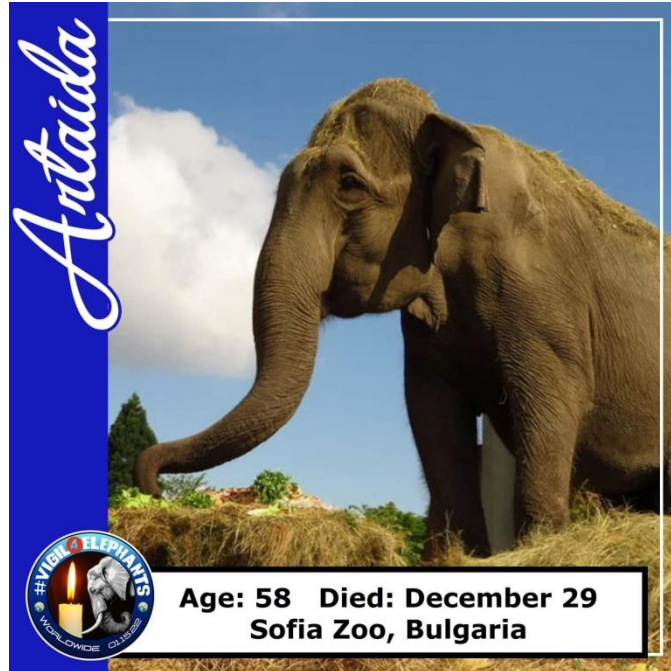
Deceased Elephant's Name:	Nanda (Mamba)
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia
Birth Date:	1967?
Date of Death:	November 8, 2021
Location of Death:	Karlsruhe Zoo, Germany
Age at Death:	54?
Cause of Death:	Unknown

Dear Nanda (Mamba),

We are sad to report that our team was unable to find much information about you. We do know that you had a difficult circus life prior to your arrival at the Karlsruhe Zoo in Karlsruhe, Germany.

We believe you were blind and at one point and that you had a close friend named Maya. We can only hope that your 5-6 years at this Zoo were manageable and that you were more comfortable in your last years.

We wish you peace and eternal rest in your next life. We remember you today.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Artaida
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia
Birth Date:	1963?
Date of Death:	December 29, 2021
Location of Death:	Sofia Zoo, Bulgaria
Age at Death:	58?
Cause of Death:	Unknown

Dear Artaida,

We see your name and your basic statistics. Again, like so many other gentle giants, we do not know much about you but we do know you were a beloved daughter.

You were the oldest animal in Sofia Zoo.

This beautiful female elephant died at the age of 58, Sofia Zoo announced on its Facebook page, and here is what is reported:

“Over the past 10 years, Artaida has received special daily care under the guidance of world elephant specialists. The elephant underwent a thermal imaging exam in December, and the results were normal for an adult elephant.

Gradually, however, the elephant lost appetite and began to eat less than usual. This is a huge loss for Sofia Zoo, because Artaida was an iconic and much-loved animal for 18 years. Earlier, Artaida was a circus elephant. Later, the animal was placed in a zoo in Gelsenkirchen (Germany). However, Artaida could not socialize with the other elephants and was taken to Sofia Zoo.

The management of Sofia Zoo is negotiating with the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA) to receive Indian elephants in the near future.”

Please note this last line. It is tragic that the EAZA remains steadfast in housing elephants in their zoos across Europe. Our voices remain strong for you and all other majestic elephants who deserve much more.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Kiran
Gender:	Male
Birth Country:	Asian Captive born, Leipzig Zoo, Germany
Birth Date:	January 11, 2020
Date of Death:	June 18, 2021
Location of Death:	Leipzig Zoo, Germany
Age at Death:	15 months
Cause of Death:	Endotheliotropic Herpes Virus (EEHV)

Kiran, an infant, male Asian Elephant, was born and died in the Leipzig Zoo in Germany. He died at only 15 months old of Endotheliotropic Herpes Virus, a common disease in captive-held Elephants and almost always fatal to Elephants under the age of 8.

Little Kiran's short life is yet another tragic example of the fact that Elephants do not thrive in captivity and captive breeding programs are notoriously unsuccessful. Dear Kiran, our prayer is that by sharing your story, others of your kind will not suffer a similar fate. May humans wake up to the knowledge that Elephants, and other Wild Ones, belong in their natural homes living the life

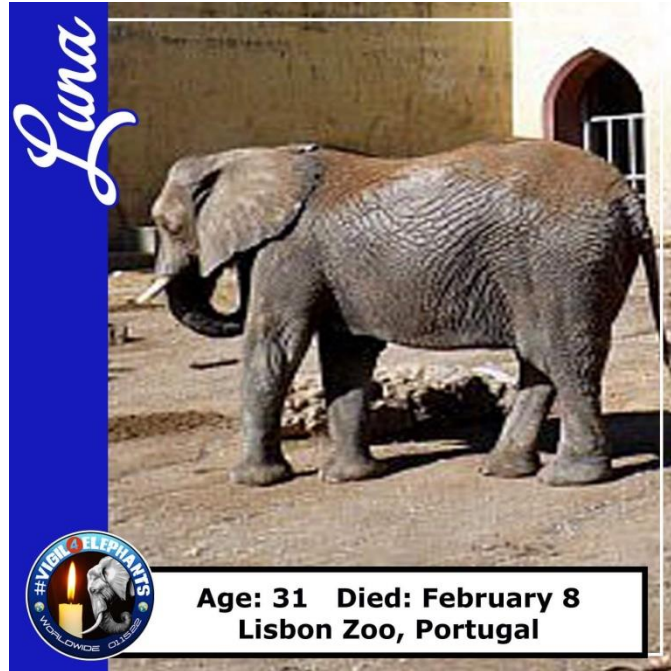
RIP dear Kiran, we will remember you, may you now be free.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Kiron
Gender:	Male, Asian
Birth Country:	Captive born, Osnabruck Zoo, Germany
Birth Date:	February 11, 2021
Date of Death:	February 16, 2021
Location of Death:	Osnabruck Zoo, Germany
Age at Death:	5 days
Cause of Death:	Euthanized: refused to eat

Kiron, a male Asian Elephant, was captive born at the Osnabruck Zoo in Germany on February 11, 2021. Five days later, little Kiron was euthanized by the zoo for failure to eat. The official cause of death: anorexia. The true cause of death: captivity. We may never know exactly why Kiron refused or was unable to nurse. What we do know is Elephants do not thrive in captivity and die faster than they can be bred. Captive breeding programs in zoos are not conservation and do not help wild Elephant populations.

Dear Kiron, our hearts break for your short, tormented life and for your mother's sorrow. May you now run free little one and grow to be the magnificent Bull Elephant you were meant to be. RIP Kiron.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Luna
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Wild caught, S. Africa
Birth Date:	Around 1990
Date of Death:	Around February 8, 2021
Location of Death:	Lisbon Zoo, Portugal
Age at Death:	Around 31
Cause of Death:	Unknown

Luna, a female African Elephant, was captured in South Africa as an infant and brought to the Lisbon Zoo in Portugal where she lived the remainder of her short life in the service of human entertainment and profit. It appears that Luna gave birth to one calf through the zoo's captive breeding program. At this time, the cause of her death is unavailable. Most likely she died of captivity related ailments such as arthritis, foot infection or other health issues.

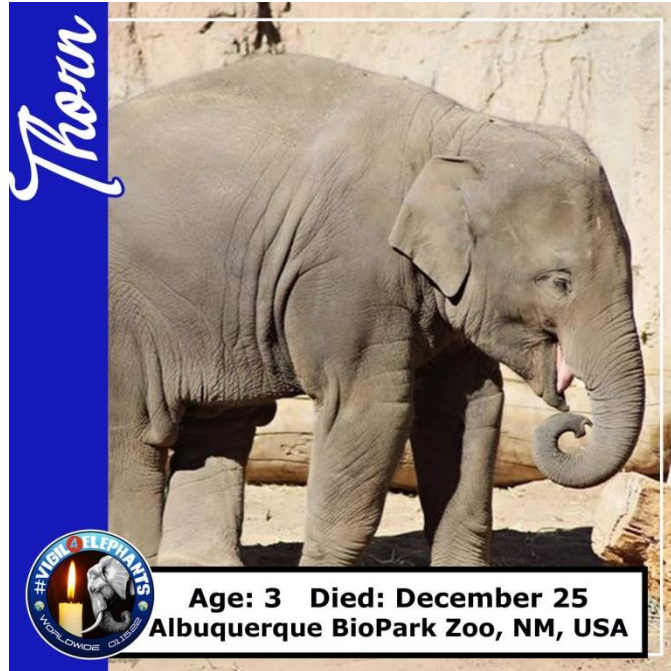
Dear Luna, you represent so many who suffer and die in zoos, on exhibit your entire life, far from home and your natural way of life. We hope that someday all Elephants will live free from such human exploitation. RIP Luna, we will remember you.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Rani
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Unknown, possibly India
Birth Date:	Wild born in 1963
Date of Death:	April 26, 2021
Location of Death:	Liberec Zoo, Czech Republic
Age at Death:	58
Cause of Death:	Euthanized due to not eating, digestive health issues, colic

Rani, a female Asian Elephant, was born wild somewhere in or around India in 1963. Her age at capture is unknown. She was brought to the Liberec Zoo in the Czech Republic in 1967 where she lived the rest of her life in captivity, on display for human entertainment and profit. At the age of 58, Rani was euthanized due to digestive health issues and failure to eat.

Dear Rani, your life illustrates the common fate of Elephants taken from their natural homes and forced to live in captive environments that cannot possibly meet their needs. Gone too soon, after a life of trauma and suffering, please know you are remembered and honored for the intelligent, compassionate, and wild Elephant that you are. RIP Rani, may you know only comfort and freedom now.

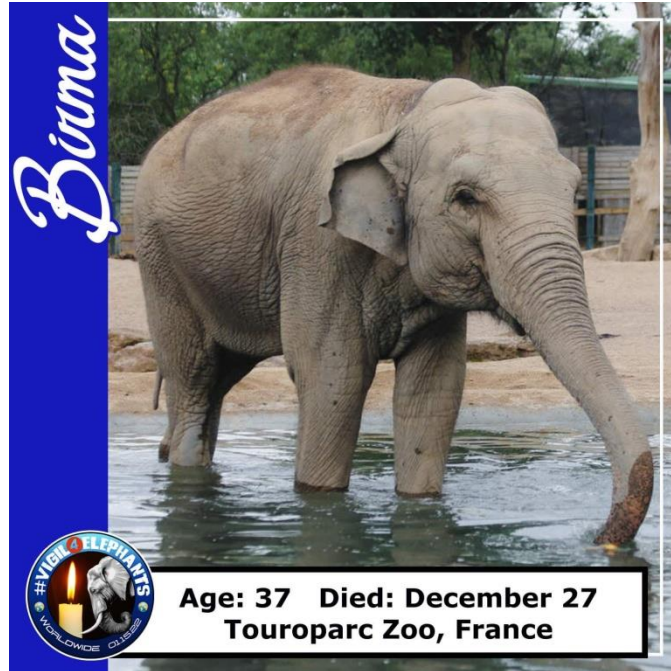


Deceased Elephant's Name:	Thorn
Gender:	Male Asian
Birth Country:	Captive born at the Albuquerque BioPark Zoo, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA
Birth Date:	May 4, 2018
Date of Death:	December 25, 2021
Location of Death:	Albuquerque BioPark Zoo, Albuquerque New Mexico, USA
Age at Death:	3 years
Cause of Death:	Endotheliotropic Herpes Virus (EEHV)

Thorn, a young, male Asian Elephant, died early Christmas morning in the BioPark Zoo in Albuquerque, New Mexico. At the age of 3, little Thorn succumbed to Endotheliotropic Herpes Virus, a common disease in captive-held Elephants and almost always fatal to Elephants under the age of 8. At least 3 captive-held Elephants died of this virus during 2021 (that we know of).

Thorn was born into captivity and lived his tragically short life on exhibit for human entertainment and profit. His story illustrates the simple fact that captive breeding programs do not work. Not only are Elephants dying in captivity faster than they can be bred, there are no plans to reintroduce these Elephants back into wild populations. These babies are bred to restock zoos and lure the public to buy tickets.

Dear Thorn, our hope is that your story will inspire humans to direct our resources towards protecting other species in their natural homes, rather than imprisoning them for human purposes. May we learn to honor the Earth and co-exist with Wild Ones on their terms. RIP Thorn, we will remember your short life and the lessons you left us to hold.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Birna
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia
Birth Date:	1984?
Date of Death:	December 27, 2021
Location of Death:	Touroparc Zoo in Romanèche-Thorins, France
Age at Death:	37?
Cause of Death:	Colic

Birna,

You are one of the final deaths of 2021. To hear that you became ill on or around Christmas and passed a couple days later, is heartbreaking. You must have been in great pain as your caretakers said that you became a "victim of an acute colic crisis, abdominal pain..."

Your digestive system must have been in a compromised condition. Since 2009, you have been a resident at the Touroparc Zoo, a zoo that had insufficient space for you. Please know that the elephant community from around the world is thinking of you today.

Rest in Peace, Birna.

Section II.

Elephants who died in a sanctuary setting during 2021 due to the inhumane conditions of captivity prior to rescue

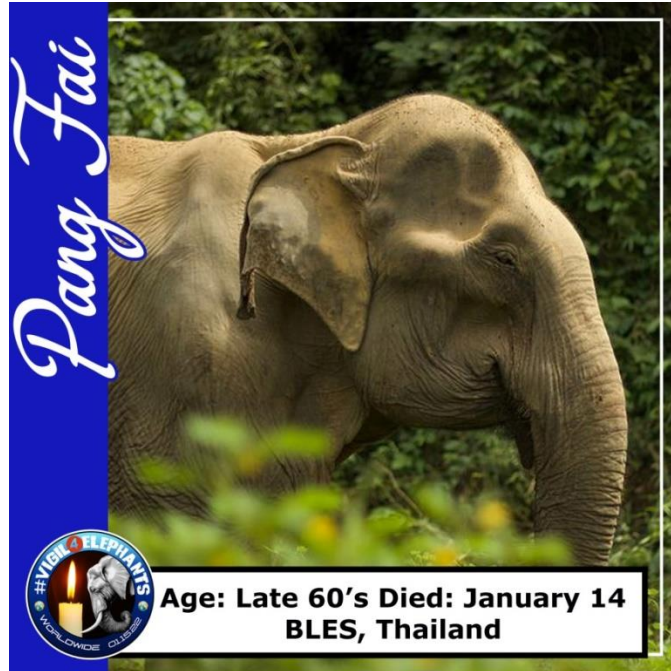


Deceased Elephant's Name:	Happy
Gender:	Asian Female
Birth Country:	Thailand
Birth Date:	1942
Date of Death:	January 2021
Location of Death:	Pamper A Pachyderm Project, Thailand
Age at Death:	78
Cause of Death:	Old age

Happy, a female Asian Elephant, was rescued from a riding camp in Thailand and brought to Pamper A Pachyderm Project, the first "Saddle Off" project supported by Elephant Nature Park. The Elephants living at Pamper A Pachyderm will never be forced to give rides to tourists again and will be provided everything they need for the rest of their lives.

Happy arrived in very poor condition, but with loving care, she was able to enjoy the last years of her life in health, safety, and happiness. Elephant Nature Park, in a tribute to Happy on their Facebook page, wrote: "She lived at Pamper a Pachyderm under loving care, roaming free with friends, never knowing work or fear or chains again. At the end of her life she lived as all elephants deserve."

RIP Dear Happy. Our hearts are broken by what you suffered and also lifted by the peace you found at the end of your life. Your story inspires the hope of sanctuary for others who are still suffering. Until wildlife captivity is no more, we are grateful for those who are dedicated to providing rescue and sanctuary. Someday may all live free.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Pang Fai
Gender:	Asian Female
Birth Country:	Thailand
Birth Date:	unknown
Date of Death:	1/14/2021
Location of Death:	Boon Lott Elephant Sanctuary, Thailand
Age at Death:	Late 60s or early 70s
Cause of Death:	Old age

There is not much information about Pang Fai's early life. She lived in captivity and worked in Thailand's logging industry for most of her life. In her later years, she was owned by a loving man who cared deeply for her. In May of 2018, Pang Fai retired to Boon Lott Elephant Sanctuary (BLES) when her owner could no longer provide for her needs.

She lived her last few years as a content Elephant, eating her fill, enjoying the water, surrounded by Elephant and human companions. She was a great favorite of the children of BLES who referred to her as "Granny". Pang Fai's final hours were peaceful and she passed held in the loving care of Katherine Connor, founder of BLES.

Katherine Connor wrote: *"Sleep deep and fly high Pang Fai – you were and always will be so very loved."*

RIP Dear Pang Fai. May every Elephant who is not free find such loving and beautiful sanctuary. Our deepest gratitude to Katherine Connor and everyone at BLES.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Shirley
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Sumatra
Birth Date:	1948
Date of Death:	02/23/21
Location of Death:	The Elephant Sanctuary, Hohenwald, Tennessee
Age at Death:	72
Cause of Death:	Age related

Shirley was believed to be the oldest elephant living in the US. Her early life was fraught with danger and the stress and tedium of life in a circus and a zoo.

Born in Sumatra in 1948, Shirley was captured from the wild and sold to a traveling circus, entertaining audiences for more than 20 years. In addition to the immense hardship of a life in performance, during her time in the circus, Shirley survived capture by Fidel Castro's forces as well as a highway accident that killed two other elephants. In 1963, the circus ship Shirley was traveling on caught fire and partially sank, leaving Shirley with burns on her back, side, and feet and causing her to lose part of her right ear.

In 1974, Shirley suffered a broken leg during an altercation with another elephant. As a result of her injury, in 1977, she was transferred to The Louisiana Purchase Zoo and Gardens, where she was the sole elephant resident for 22 years. As Shirley aged, the zoo staff decided she needed more space and the companionship of other elephants. Her primary caretaker, Solomon James, accompanied Shirley on her journey to The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee.

When she arrived at the sanctuary in 1999, Shirley had a loud and joyous reunion with another Asian elephant, Jenny — nearly bending the bars of their barn stalls to be near to one another. It

was later discovered that the two performed together in the circus 24 years earlier. For the next seven years, Shirley and Jenny were inseparable in a relationship resembling one of a mother and calf.

For several weeks before her death, Shirley was exhibiting signs of increased signs of weakness, fatigue, and discomfort. The staff worked round the clock to relieve her pain, providing her with all her favorite treats, including jelly beans. But finally she lay down and her caregivers knew it was time for her to go, so they made her as comfortable as possible before easing her out of this world.

RIP Shirley, you proved how resilient and strong elephants can be in the face of extreme adversity. You also showed us how forgiving and loving elephants are. The memory of your kind and generous heart and your tremendous strength and courage will always be remembered.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Fenya
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	South Africa
Birth Date:	2018
Date of Death:	March 11, 2021
Location of Death:	HERD, S. Africa
Age at Death:	2.5
Cause of Death:	Injury from a snare

Fenya breathed her last breath after a hard and long fight to survive her terrible injuries as a result of a, a barbarous and cruel device that many wild elephants encounter. Though she was born wild, she lived and died at HERD - Hoedspruit Elephant Rehabilitation and Development, that rescues orphan elephants.

Fenya sadly had a very short life. But she will always be remembered for the tough little fighter she proved to be. RIP Fenya. You touched many hearts.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Nita
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Borneo
Birth Date:	June 2019
Date of Death:	March 12, 2021
Location of Death:	Borneo Elephant Sanctuary
Age at Death:	21 months
Cause of Death:	Injuries sustained prior to rescue

KOTA KINABALU: A 20-month battle to save baby Borneo pygmy elephant Nita, which was rescued from an oil palm plantation some 20 months ago. Nita had to be euthanized because of complications caused by injuries she suffered before her rescue from the estate in the Tawau east coast district.

According to the Borneo Sanctuary, Nita, only a month old then, was left behind by her herd during an elephant control exercise conducted by authorities as she could not keep up with the rest.

"The calf had sustained injuries and wounds that needed to be treated and was brought to the Borneo Elephant Sanctuary in Kinabatangan," said Sabah wildlife director Augustine Tuuga here today. Tuuga said Nita had to be put down on Wednesday after her condition worsened despite efforts by wildlife veterinarians to save her.

"She was given intensive care but her condition did not improve. The fractures she suffered were beyond repair. The vets had to make the hardest decision to end her misery," he said. Tuuga said a fiberglass cast was put around the limb in hope of repairing the fracture. A team of orthopedic specialists from Hospital Duchess of Kent in Sandakan was also consulted, but her condition did not improve.

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Elephant deaths have been a common fixture in Sabah for years and have garnered much attention, including from international media. Many of the deaths are the result of human-elephant conflict, which ends in elephants being killed through poisoning, snare traps and brutal shootings, such as a case in 2019 when an elephant was found with over 70 bullet holes.

Former Sabah deputy chief minister Christina Liew, who was also the state environment minister, had previously said there were 150 elephant deaths from 2010 to 2019. In this period, only four human deaths caused by elephants were recorded.

The pygmy elephants are an endangered species with only an estimated 1,500 individuals still to be found in the wild, largely in Sabah. This led to the previous Sabah government coming up with the 10-year Bornean Elephant Action Plan (2020-2029), aimed at enhancing the protection and conservation of elephants in the state.

RIP Nita, you endured more suffering than any little elephant should ever have to in this life.

Source: [FreeMalaysiaToday.com](https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com)



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Bai Cha
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia
Birth Date:	
Date of Death:	May 14, 2021
Location of Death:	Elephant Nature Park, Thailand
Age at Death:	70
Cause of Death:	

Beautiful Words From the Elephant Nature Park:

"September 14th, 2016 was the day that we rescued Bai Cha from the Riding camp. This old lady arrived in critical condition with much life trauma. Daily we tried to help her, to improve her health and to do as much as we can to assist her to join the herd. She preferred her own company. She was scared of others who would walk close by. We tried to introduce her to both groups and loners amongst our herd but she would rather stay peaceful by herself. We made a space for her, peaceful and apart. Her mahout took her for exercise every day. Every day, in the early afternoon, when few elephants were around, you could find her relaxing in the river.

Since mid-December, Bai Cha has shown deteriorating health. Sometimes, when she walked in the field, she would collapse and lay down for a while until she was ready to stand up again by herself. Recently, she couldn't walk to the river because her body was so weak. Our vet monitored her and provided appropriate treatment. In February, she seemed back to herself again, eating well and with improved strength each day. She walked to the river again but still not confident to lay down to sleep. For the last two nights, she lay down again to rest, but this morning she did not try to stand up. She did not even try to lift her head. We let her rest, and she slept well, given a peaceful time by herself until before midday. And then she slipped away, old age embracing her, and kindness all around. Her last breath was surrounded by love and care.

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Almost Six years this beautiful lady graced our land, and to see her change from her former life after she arrived with us, Bai Cha is one of the many elephant who teaches us the way of trauma and a lifetime of abuse. We learn so much from her fear, and her reticence to join with others, this most developed of social animals. This we have done, and captivity is yet an unreconciled evil. For five and a half years, Bai Cha enjoyed the freedom of our Park. She deserved a lifetime of such care and respect. Her freedom now is complete and her Soul journey continues. We celebrate her life and her time with us, to bring this beautiful soul across the rainbow bridge. RIP granny Bai Cha. We love you, and you will always be missed."



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Maggie
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Zimbabwe, Africa
Birth Date:	1982
Date of Death:	August 5, 2021
Location of Death:	PAWS Sanctuary, California, USA
Age at Death:	41
Cause of Death:	

Beautiful News Release from PAWS:

San Andreas, Calif. (August 5, 2021) – The Performing Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) today announced the death of African elephant Maggie at the ARK 2000 captive wildlife sanctuary in San Andreas, California. Maggie passed away on Tuesday beneath her favorite shady oak tree and near preferred mud holes in the sanctuary's largest habitat, with PAWS' staff on hand. Elephant friend Lulu was at her side, and Toka stood calmly with a caregiver nearby. According to the African Elephant Studbook, Maggie was 41 years old. Maggie lived with significant arthritis and dental disease for much of her life.

"Maggie enjoyed California's sunny skies, the wide-open spaces of her habitat, and the company of other elephants for nearly 14 years at our sanctuary. She could often be found napping on a hillside, watched over by elephants Lulu and Toka," said PAWS President Ed Stewart. "I am honored to have cared for Maggie and very proud of the keeper and veterinary care we provided for her throughout the years."

Before coming to PAWS in November 2007, Maggie was the only elephant in Alaska, living at the Alaska Zoo in Anchorage. The first call after Maggie's death was to Alaska Zoo Executive Director Pat

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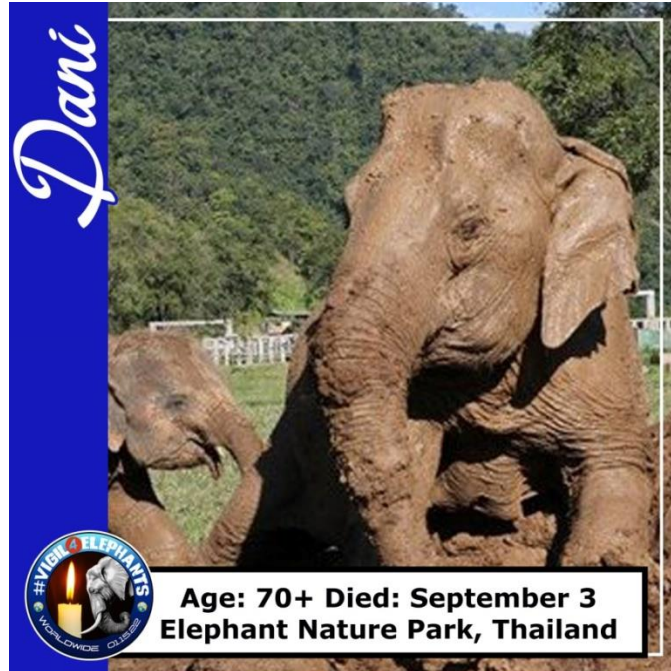
Lampi, who stated: "We are all deeply saddened to learn about the passing of Maggie. She touched the lives of many Alaskans and people all over the world. I take comfort in knowing that the past 13 years she was in the loving care of our friends at PAWS and in the company of her close companion Lulu."

Maggie was born in Zimbabwe, Africa, in 1982 and captured as a calf, likely as a result of an elephant cull. The Alaska Zoo acquired Maggie in 1983 and she spent the next 24 years there, the last 10 years of that time alone.

In 2007, the zoo decided to send Maggie to the PAWS sanctuary. Because no commercial airline option was available to move her, Maggie was flown by the U.S. Air Force aboard a C-17 Globemaster III from Elmendorf Air Force Base in Alaska. Emmy Award-winning television game show host and animal advocate Bob Barker reimbursed the Air Force for the full cost of transport and funded Maggie's care for a number of years.

Maggie lived with significant arthritis and dental disease for much of her life, and although these conditions were greatly helped by excellent care and the therapeutic setting of the sanctuary, they continued to worsen over time and contributed to her passing. In free-living elephants, a 41-year-old female would be in her prime, as African elephants can live to be 65 years old. In captive situations, elephants' lives are frequently cut short by captivity-induced ailments such as premature arthritis and foot disease. According to the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, the median life expectancy for female African elephants in captivity is only 38.1 years.

"All of us at PAWS will miss this truly special and dear elephant," said Stewart. "She was loved by the other elephants, PAWS' staff, and everyone who knew her or followed her compelling story, from Alaska to California and beyond."



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Dani
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia
Birth Date:	Unknown
Date of Death:	September 3, 2021
Location of Death:	Elephant Nature Park, Thailand
Age at Death:	Around 70 years
Cause of Death:	Older age, died peacefully

A Beautiful tribute from the Elephant Nature Park:

"Dear Elephant friends,

Sad, but expected news to share with you. Dani has given up and left this world peacefully in her sleep this evening.

Dani arrived at Elephant Nature Park on November 30, 2010 and was rescued from the logging industry. Throughout her life, she worked hauling logs along the Thai-Myanmar border. Both of Dani's front legs were injured badly from a log that rolled down, striking her. Her former owner said that it happened when she was in her sixties. She was ailing for many years, and unable to drag timber again. The owner decided to sell her when she became no longer useful for work. She was then rescued to ENP. Upon arrival, Dani became friends with Mae Bualoy and Mae BoonMa, two older elephants. Later they joined Faa Mai's herd, becoming nannies briefly for the baby elephants in that herd.

It wasn't long that the young handicapped boy named Khun Dej arrived and Dani immediately adopted him, taking him away from the larger groups where he could be safe. She loved and protected

him like her own son. After a while, Khun Dej gravitated to another nanny who could temper his male moodiness, but Dani soon became nanny to another young bull, the orphaned Dok Geaw. Dani devoted herself to these boys until they became too much to handle, and the playful behavior a risk to her more frail stature. When Dani accepted JeamSai, a blind elephant, as her best friend, she was also careful to protect her friend from the rough and ready boys.

Over the past two years, Dani has shown noticeable signs of exhaustion. She struggled and showed signs of illness in walking, defecation, and vision. She began to distance herself from the boys, remaining close to her friend, JeamSai.

When Dani began to eat less food, we moved her to an area close to the elephant clinic for closer supervision. In the past several months, Dani would lay down during the day to rest, with difficulty standing again. The team of vets and mahouts would push Dani up almost every morning, as with other old elephants at our project.

Last week, Dani seemed to have had enough. We knew right away that it wouldn't be long now. This morning Dani wouldn't lift her head, her eyes closed and snoring softly. We let her sleep. In the evening Dani's heartbeat was faint, and then she left us. Dani died surrounded by both love and sadness. She has gone on to be with her friends who departed before her. Sorrow left behind, she has shared with us such wonderful memories.

Rest in Peace, darling Dani."



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Arun Reah
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Cambodia
Birth Date:	1960
Date of Death:	September 16, 2021
Location of Death:	Cambodia Wildlife Sanctuary, Cambodia
Age at Death:	61
Cause of Death:	Illness and forced labor in logging industry

Arun Reah (which means Sunrise), a female Asian Elephant, was rescued from the logging industry in 2013 and was one of the fortunate few who was able to live her last years in the comfort and safety of sanctuary. When she was brought to the Cambodia Wildlife Sanctuary by Save Elephant Foundation she suffered from injuries to her back from the saddle, on her back right leg from the chain, and her right eye had been damaged from a physical trauma. However, she quickly grew to love her new freedom in her jungle home where she bonded with Sarai Mia, another rescued Elephant. When Arun Reah passed, leaving a grieving community of Elephants and humans, local monks came to perform a Blessing Ceremony on her behalf.

We wish you farewell dear Arun Reah. May you Rest in Peace, forever held in the heart of your beloved companion Sarai Mia, far from your days of harsh labor and abuse. And as the sun rises each morning, may your name invoke hope for others like you suffering in captive conditions. RIP Arun Reah. Someday may all of your Kin be free.



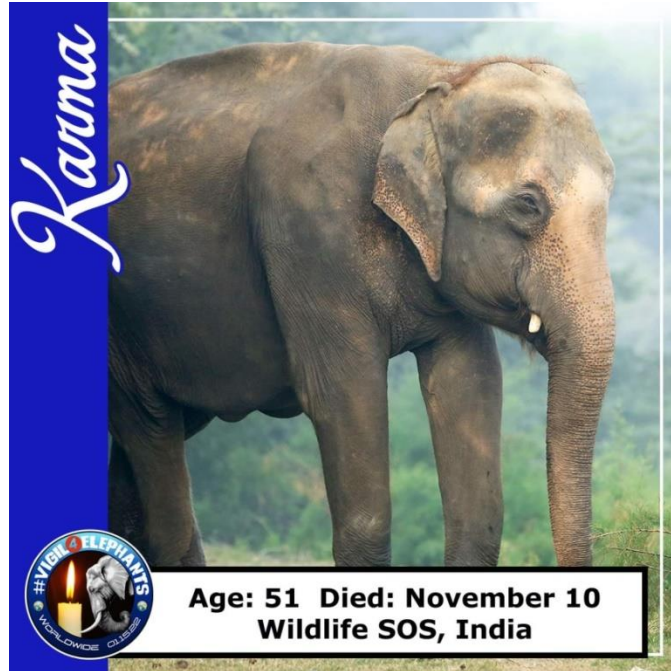
Deceased Elephant's Name:	Thongkoon
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia
Birth Date:	1954
Date of Death:	October 19, 2021
Location of Death:	Elephant Haven, Thailand Sai Yok Elephant Haven Kanchanaburi Project,
Age at Death:	67
Cause of Death:	unknown

RIP "Grandma Thongkoon"

"Elephant Haven Thailand is feeling blue at Elephant Haven Thailand.

Grandma Thongkoon passed away; she left us with all the beautiful memories. Rest In Peace beautiful soul. It is with deep regret and profound sadness that today our sweet Grandma "Thongkoon" left the world peacefully. Rest In Peace beautiful Thongkoon. Your wonderful and gentle soul will forever remain in our hearts. RIP Thongkoon we all love you We will miss you a lot."

Beautiful words for Thongkoon.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Karma
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia
Birth Date:	1970
Date of Death:	November 10, 2021
Location of Death:	Wildlife SOS, India
Age at Death:	51
Cause of Death:	

[This is a beautiful tribute for Karma, posted on the Wildlife SOS Facebook page on November 10, 2021.](#)

Remembering Karma

November 10, 2021 | By Roohi Narula

On 10 November 2021, we bid farewell to our beloved Karma. Talking about the loss of one of his favorite elephants, Karma's caregiver Surendra said, "During the Covid pandemic, we have all experienced so much loss. Whether it may be a human or animal, the death of a being is hard to cope with. Anytime an animal passes, much like humans, their memory stays, and that memory is all we can honor."

And honor Karma we will.

The day Karma arrived at the Elephant Hospital Campus is vividly etched in the memories of everyone at Wildlife SOS. The majestic pachyderm's serene demeanor was inescapable. Unlike other blind elephants who are often agitated with any disruption, Karma stood calmly with her head held high. She confidently stepped into the Wildlife SOS Elephant Hospital as if anticipating her newfound freedom.

Surendra fondly recalls this day. He said, "From the minute I saw Karma, I was in awe of her. She was truly a majestic elephant who exuded an infectious calmness."

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The calm demeanor of Karma veiled the years of brutality she had undergone. Yet, her body refused to lie, displaying wounds that could send shivers down even the most stoic observer. Karma stood silently as veterinarians inspected a searingly painful ankush (bullhook) wound behind her left ear that had become infected and filled with pus. Her hind joints had also fused, causing Karma immense pain. Her eyes had lost their purpose, leaving Karma to navigate the world in darkness.

According to Kartick Satyanarayan, Co-founder & CEO of Wildlife SOS Karma's story highlights the condition of all the captive elephants in India who are beaten, chained, starved and kept in terrible conditions in temples, circuses and are used to beg on the streets, for weddings or giving joy rides to tourists.

Abused as a begging elephant in Uttar Pradesh, Karma had spent the majority of her life walking scalding-hot tarmac roads and bearing the jabs of a bullhook. In January of 2020, Karma was rescued by Wildlife SOS. As she arrived into her new haven, the hot tarmac roads turned into soft mud that grazed Karma's ailing feet; The harsh sting of a bullhook was replaced by the gentle touch of Surendra, who lovingly welcomed Karma.

Geeta Seshamani, Co-founder & Secretary of Wildlife SOS, said, "It's hard to imagine the brutal abuse Karma suffered before her rescue. When she arrived at the Elephant Hospital Campus, we were certain that Karma would be able to put her old life behind her and enjoy a peaceful retirement."

To help Karma overcome her traumatic past, she was introduced to two other elephants – Holly and Kalpana. Like kindred spirits, Holly and Karma instinctively gravitated towards each other, forming an inseparable bond. Holly would trumpet and Karma would immediately begin walking towards her, leaving whatever she was doing at the time. Karma started leaning on Holly, quite literally to help her get relief from her aching joints. Holly would stand stiffly, ensuring Karma could rely on her for comfort.

Elephants are said to experience a multitude of emotions – fear, joy, happiness, and compassion. For Karma, love was an emotion she unapologetically experienced and expressed. Despite years of captivity and abuse, Karma's heart remained open and free. She loved fearlessly.

"Karma would reach out for my hand with her trunk when we would go on her daily walks. Even after having faced brutality at human hands, she was one of the most loving elephants I knew," says Surendra.

A year into her rescue, Karma's affectionate and joyous personality fully revealed itself. She spent the year relishing her freedom, refusing to let any moment pass by in dullness. Karma discovered the healing powers of water, and on sunny days she would splash around in the pool in her enclosure, letting the water ease her aching joints. Imitating Holly, Karma even began taking long dust baths, enjoying the cooling effects of the sand. For the first time in her life, Karma enjoyed the rain. She would trumpet at the sight of even a raindrop, letting her loud voice reverberate throughout the Elephant Hospital campus. Only accustomed to the dry grass her captor would feed her, Karma became obsessed with watermelons and would consume 20 kilograms of the food in a day! Our elephant care staff would enjoy quite a laugh as Karma smashed watermelons to the ground, devouring the fruit as soon as it cracked open.

While Karma healed emotionally, her body could not keep up with her healing spirit. Approximately six months ago, Karma's tests revealed issues with her failing kidney as well as significantly low protein levels. Her diffused joints further stiffened, inhibiting Karma from being able to lie down and sleep. Karma started moving slowly, unable to move as freely as she used to.

The Wildlife SOS team spent countless hours trying to ease Karma's suffering. Every day, her foot was covered with magnesium sulfate and turmeric, known for their healing properties. To reduce the inflammation, she was also given a daily dose of antibiotics along with pain medication. Karma's daily oatmeal was mixed with soya bean and gram to provide her with protein. During her last few days, Karma refused to eat, only consuming 10 kgs of fruits a day. Even her favorite watermelon could no longer lure the pachyderm into eating. Weak and exhausted, Karma began experiencing instability. A few days before she passed, Karma collapsed out of

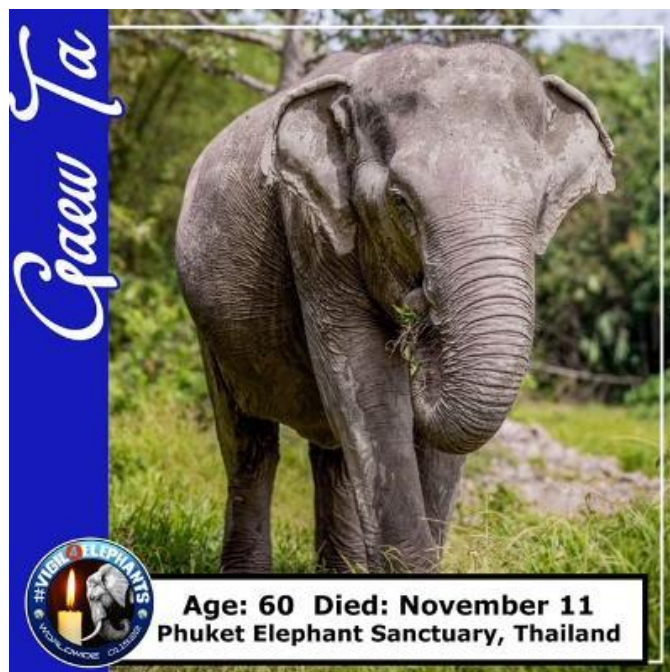
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exhaustion. Our team would lift Karma up with the help of a crane, without which they feared she would fall again. She was administered 10 liters of IV fluids and covered in a thermal blanket to help her stay warm. The veterinary team remained on-site, giving Karma laser therapy massages for her joints. Afraid of losing his beloved Karma, Surendra was constantly by her side, feeding her chopped watermelon during her lengthy medical treatments.

Despite all efforts, Karma collapsed again, but this time she did not get up. She passed with as much serenity as she had entered the Hospital Campus. Her post mortem report revealed that Karma's vital organs had slowly been deteriorating. Due to complete respiratory failure, Karma passed away.

Sensing her soul sister had left her side, Holly refused to leave her enclosure, letting out trumpets in hopes that Karma would scurry towards her like she usually did. Yet, Karma did not return, leaving Holly and all of us at Wildlife SOS with a heavy and sorrowful heart.

Looking back, we will remember Karma as a serene and loving elephant who taught us all about perseverance and courage. With Karma in our hearts and you by our side, we use her memory to continue fighting for all of India's elephants.



Deceased Elephant's Name:	Gaew Ta
Gender:	Female
Birth Country:	Asia
Birth Date:	1961
Date of Death:	November 11, 2021
Location of Death:	Phuket Elephant Sanctuary – Thailand
Age at Death:	60
Cause of Death:	"Fragile Health"

Heartfelt words from Phuket Elephant Sanctuary:

"Rest In Peace, Gaew Ta. Yesterday, a few weeks shy of her 5-year anniversary, we had to say goodbye to 60-year-old "Darling".

In late 2016, with the support of the Save Elephant Foundation, we rescued Gaew Ta from a riding camp in the South of Phuket. Despite being blind, she adjusted wonderfully into sanctuary life and delighted us many times with her quirky and pleasant character. With a heavy, yet joyful heart we cherish the memories of Gaew Ta unlocking her night shelter to visit our neighbour's banana tree garden for a midnight snack, the many carefree mud baths she enjoyed at our sanctuary, and notably the beautiful friendship she formed with Fah Mui over the last 2 years.

We thank our veterinary assistant Toomtarn, the team of mahouts and Dr. Yu, veterinarian from the provincial livestock department for their hard work and dedication over the past 5 years to give Gaew Ta the best possible retirement despite her fragile health.

At 10 AM Gaew Ta passed away peacefully in the comfort of her shelter. Sleep well, darling."

Section III.

Elephants who died under private ownership during 2021,
including Elephants held for Temple Festivals

Information provided to Vigil4Elephants by:

Sangita Iyer and VK Venkitachalam

Synopsis:

Today we are mourning the loss of 29 captive elephants in Kerala, including two babies, who died in 2021. Arjun and Sreekutty, were less than two-years-old when they contracted the Herpes virus and died at the government run Kottoor Elephant Rehab Center. Most of the other elephants were bulls between 30 and 55 years of age. These majestic animals were brutalized into submissions, caparisoned, emasculated and paraded on hot tar roads in "cultural festivals". They were deprived of food, water and rest, trucked across the state for miles on end through precarious roads, with no shade to shelter them from the scorching sun. So people can be entertained behind in the name of culture.

Ironically, these gentle giants are tortured and worshiped at the same time by religious institutions, shackled and tormented physically and psychologically when they are alive. But after they die, the owners lay wreaths and light lamps for public display. Everything in this state is a stark paradox - dark, shocking and disturbing nevertheless.

There are approximately 475 captive elephants in Kerala, most of them bulls, almost all captured and transported illegally from Northern India. The festival mafias flout the laws of the land in broad daylight, and literally get away with murder. Despite local activists and VFAES pursuing many court cases, change has been slow to come because of the corrupt elephant lobby groups. But we will keep exposing the atrocities against these innocent animals, and cultivate compassion for these highly social and sensitive animals, in our efforts to change public perception.

One by one, these are the festival elephants of Kerala who crossed over the rainbow bridge in 2021. They are now flying free, soaring deftly with the angels.

29. **Elephant Chirakkadu Adhisankaran** aged 45 was found dead at his tethering place on 17th December.
28. **Elephant Mangalamkundu Ramachandran** aged 42 was found dead at his tethering place in Palakkad district on 19th December.
27. **Elephant Mangalamkundu Gajendran** aged 47 died in Palakkad district on 24th November.
26. **Elephant Mangalamkundu Rajan** aged 52 died in Palakkad on 23rd of November
25. **Elephant Alappuzha Madhavan** Aged 50 died in Alappuzha on November 1st
24. **Elephant named Vazhayil Anilbabu** aged 48 died in Trichur on 28th October 2021.
23. **Sreevijayam Karthikeyan** aged 48, died in Trivandrum on 22nd October
22. **Elephant Aiyroor Chilanka Vasudevan** aged 47, died in Trivandrum on October 15.
21. **Elephant Kottiyoor Chandrasekharan** aged 50, died in Kannur on October 14.
20. **Elephant Pattathanam Janaki** aged 42 died in Kollam on October 6th. Brought from Bihar.
19. **Elephant named Channanikkad Ayyappankutty** aged 52, died in Kottayam on August 26.
18. **Elephant Balussery Jagadambika** aged 38, died in Kozhikode district on July 31st.
17. **Elephant named Pazhoor Mana Gopalan** aged 62, died in Trichur district on July 27, captured from Kerala forest.
16. **Elephant Akkaramel Laila** aged 40, died in Kozhikode district on July 11th.
15. **Elephant Kottur Arjun** aged 2 years rescued from Wayanad forest died at Kottur Elephant camp due to Herpes virus on July 6th
14. **Elephant Guruvayur Senior Madhavankutty** aged 47, died at Guruvayur Temple, Trissur on July 3rd.
13. **Elephant named Chottanikkara Seetha** aged 52, died in Cochin on June 29
12. **Elephant Kottur Sreekutty** aged 2 years born at Wayanad forest area died at Kottur Elephant from Herpes virus on June 28.
11. **Elephant named Manissery Raghuram** aged 52 died at Palakkad on June 9th.
10. **Elephant Kuzhur Swaminathan** aged 48, died in Ernakulam district on May 31st
9. **Elephant Mathilakam Darshini** aged 50, kept by Padmanabha swami temple in Trivandrum died on May 30. Born in Kerala forest.
8. **Elephant Konni Manikandan** aged 40, born in Kerala Forest died at Konni government run camp
7. **Elephant Kumbalam Manikandan** aged 52 died in Ernakulam district on April 14th.
6. **Elephant Kalarikkavu Ambadikannan** aged 20 died in Thrissur district on April 9th.

5. **Elephant Ambalapuzha Vijaykrishnan** aged 38, kept by Thiruvithamkur Devaswam Board in Frankie Alappuzha district died on April 8.

4. **Elephant Kiran Ganapathy** aged 32, died in Kottayam district on April 5th.

3. **Elephant named Guruvayur Senior Kesavan** aged 58, died at Guruvayur Temple on March 29th.

2. **Elephant named K.R. Sivaprasad** aged 42, died in Trichur District on 28th January.

1. **Elephant named Mangalamkundu Kannan** aged 62, died in Palakkad District on 28th January.



Section IV.

Elephants who died in the wild during 2021

“Wide Satao”

Frankie

Freedom

Gange, Female

IL Talal

Jabu

Lakshmi

Luggard, African

Madikeri

Mae Kaew

Maisaha

Mumo

Naan Waam

Noi

Phang Fasai

Plai Boon Rawd

Plai Chan Bang

Rothko

Shukuru’s

Sumatran elephant, July 12, 2021, Found beheaded.

Unnamed elephant found deceased in field near Chaglijhar. Food Poisoning

Unnamed One year old rescued elephant who lost half of its trunk in a snare in Indonesia's

Aceh province.

The information in this elephant biography booklet was compiled by volunteers. Information was gathered from various sources. The organizers assume no responsibility or liability for any errors or omissions in the content of this booklet. The information contained in this booklet is provided on an “as is” basis with no guarantees of completeness, accuracy, usefulness or timeliness.

Thank you to each individual around the world who work tirelessly every day to help elephants reach a more peaceful and natural existence.

