

Sacramento Zoo's Red Panda Jane Dies at 19 Years

**WHAT'S
HAPPENING:**

The Sacramento Zoo is saddened to announce the death of "Jane" the Red Panda. At the age of 19, Jane was the oldest panda in the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA) Red Panda Species Survival Plan® (SSP) Program population of 232 animals in 83 zoological institutions.

Jane was a wonderful ambassador for her species that captivated the hearts of many. She will be missed by all who had the privilege to know her.

WHERE:

Sacramento Zoo, at the corner of Land Park Dr. and Sutterville Rd. in William Land Park.

WHEN:

Jane died in her sleep on August 30, 2016.



*Photo credit: Mike Owyang
Sacramento Zoo*

The Sacramento Zoo is saddened to announce the death of Jane, at the age of 19, she was the oldest Red Panda in an American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA) Species Survival Plan® (SSP) Program. The average life expectancy for Red Pandas in zoos is 10.5 years.

Over the past year, Jane had been treated for some gum infections and dental problems. She was receiving daily treatments for arthritis in her hips and knees. After an active day of exploring her exhibit, she died in her sleep.

"Jane was very old for a panda and the keepers took excellent and special care with all her geriatric needs," said Leslie Field, Supervisor of Mammals at the Sacramento Zoo. "All the pandas have very unique personalities, but Jane was exceptionally so for the species in her very even-keeled 'panda' personality."

Jane was born at the Knoxville Zoo in 1997 and came to the Sacramento Zoo in 2001. While at the Knoxville Zoo she gave birth to one litter of two offspring and at the Sacramento Zoo she had two litters with three cubs each. Jane delighted guests when she participated in Wildlife Stage shows at the Zoo in 2012. Jane is well known amongst many Red Panda caretakers across the country. Keepers who have worked with Jane over the years think of her fondly.

“Jane was well-loved by all staff and all that interacted with her,” said keeper, Amanda Mayberry. “She was one of a kind, and definitely not your typical standoffish panda. While it is heartbreaking to lose her, Jane had a great, long life.”

Red Pandas are native to Eastern Asia, including Nepal, Myanmar, Tibet and south-central China. They are mostly solitary small carnivores whose markings mimic the reddish-brown tree trunks of their habitats. Also known as a “fire fox” or “bamboo cat”, Red Pandas are Endangered. The Sacramento Zoo supports the Red Panda Network, an organization committed to the conservation of wild Red Pandas and their habitat through the education and empowerment of local communities. The Sacramento Zoo has been an active participant in the Red Panda SSP since 1999.

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Sacramento Zoo – Wildly Inspiring!

Open since 1927, the Sacramento Zoo is home to more than 500 native, rare and endangered animals and is one of more than 200 accredited institutions of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. Located near the corner of Land Park Drive and Sutterville Road in William Land Park, the Zoo is wholly managed by the non-profit Sacramento Zoological Society. This Sacramento treasure inspires conservation awareness through education and recreation. Open daily from 9 am to 5 pm with last admission at 4 pm. General admission is \$11.75; children ages 2-11 are \$7.75 and one and under are admitted free. Parking is free throughout the park or ride Regional Transit bus #6. For information, call 916.808.5888 or visit saczoo.org.

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