

Hamba Kahle **Nkosi yezi Ndlovu** yase Thula Thula

Lawrence Anthony, fearless conservationist, bestselling author, and owner of Thula Thula Private Game Reserve, touched the lives of many.

Here **Wildside** publishes tributes to Lawrence.

When you were born they threw the mould away. Thank you for the inspiration you were to all of us, especially for the adventures and crazy happenings you brought into our lives and, above all, for your laughter and love. Your passing brought an irreplaceable void in our family but you will always remain in our hearts and minds. **Your loving mother and family**

Lawrence was a free spirit who lived life with passion and wanted to make a difference in this world, for animals and humans alike. He had that unique impact on people and was an inspiration to all with his enthusiastic and non-conformist approach to life. Lawrence touched many hearts and was loved and admired by everyone, and his legacy will live on. **Francoise Malby-Anthony**

I have been close to the Anthony family for many years. The family has suffered a great loss. Lawrence will be missed by many. We are all proud of what he achieved internationally as a conservationist. People throughout the world respected him. But here in Zululand, we considered him one of our own and one of our greatest. **Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi**

The cause of saving our planet, our natural habitat, as well as our animal heritage, has suffered a crippling blow with the passing of its champion. I was privileged to have worked with him on some of his projects, such as creating the Royal Zulu Game Park, incorporating Thula Thula up to Mfolozi. He brought nature conservation awareness to the tribal communities of KwaBiyela and KwaMthethwa. It was an incredible achievement. We salute you Lawrence for your untiring efforts to save the planet and its animal heritage. **Dr Ben Ngubane**

The passing of Lawrence Anthony at so early an age is a great tragedy. He was man of tremendous courage. He has been deeply engaged in negotiations for the extension

of Imfolozi Game Reserve and linking with Mpate. I will miss him dearly as a friend and companion in the never ending struggle for wildlife conservation. **Dr Ian Player**

Lawrence was a great man. I'm saddened by his passing on but will continue with the work we started. We had so many plans; we were going to approach overseas football clubs to join in our Ezemvelo Cup. I hope he rests in peace, he was an icon for all of us in conservation, and his projects will live far beyond his life. We had a shared passion for communities and I promise that I will continue that. **Dr Bandile Mkhize, CEO of Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife**

We're devastated that such a wonderful, talented son of Zululand has passed away, but mercifully spared any suffering, whilst leaving a great legacy for us to lean on. His personal friendship with President Jacob Zuma was an important conduit for the message of Zululand conservation challenges, and in this he will be sorely missed. **Hamba Kahle. Zululand Wildlife Forum**

I can't think of anyone from conservation who was so impressive. I can't think of any politician who does more nation-building. He was so affable and friendly, but there was no mistaking his seriousness. It was a privilege to know Lawrence and to serve with him. He was marvellous. A magnificent legacy. **Ian Raper - National President of the Southern Africa Association for the Advancement of Science**

He was a dear friend. I met him in the Congo where I was working for the United Nations. He was indefatigable. He was a wonderful human being, simple and down to earth, brave and affectionate. I will miss him. May his soul rest in eternal peace forever. **Mujahid Alam, Pakistan**

I always thought of him as indestructible. His enthusiasm

was infectious. As concerns his involvement in local communities, he was very genuine. He was old fashioned in that way; his heart was totally in it. **Peter Rutsch - Royal Zulu Biosphere.**

I've never met anyone so capable of winning unwinnable battles. Lawrence was a get-things-done presence in a realm - conservation - in which passion and science often sink in the cautious currents of inertia and rhetoric. His obdurate sense of justice may be what drove him from one adventure to the next, but it was balanced by a child-like curiosity and mischievousness - as well as an utter disregard for his own limitations. **Tom Clynes, author, Michigan, USA**

I'm gutted he's gone but know I'm privileged to have been part of his adventures. His personality, drive and vision opened doors that appeared at first to be shut. I hope his enormous legacy will continue to inspire those who have ever had the privilege to have known Lawrence. **Brendan Whittington-Jones, EWT**

He was not only our boss, but a friend, a mentor and a father-figure. Our hearts are broken, but we will continue to work along the path he has created for us. **Marissa Lenting, Assistant to Lawrence Anthony**

Lawrence was a force of nature, a natural force. Compelling in his thinking, lucid in his reasoning, and, that rarest of all qualities, an attentive listener with the ability to recollect events, within their relevant context. Lawrence chose to be involved in matters close to his heart. I salute you, Lawrence Anthony. **JP Fourie**

Losing Lawrence has been devastating, personally and professionally. He played a massive roll in my life as a friend and a mentor. The world is poorer without him and he will be missed by people and animals alike. We must continue his work. **Yvette Taylor, Executive Director of The Earth Organization**

You came, you led, you conquered, when everyone was scared to act, you did what was to be done.

You were selfless and full of humanity. You did so much but now you have to rest Mkhulu, your work here is done. I love you, we all love you. **Sam Madlala Co-Founder of The Earth Organization-Pietermaritzburg Chapter.**

We are deeply saddened at the loss of Lawrence Anthony on the eve of launching his book, 'The Last Rhino'. Lawrence was a well-respected northern KZN personality and known to all members of Project Rhino KZN. His untimely death is a devastating loss to South Africa's conservation community. **Project Rhino KZN**

ACT's Skydive for Rhinos team send their deepest condolences to Francoise, Alyson McPhee and the staff at Thula Thula and the Earth Organisation. Lawrence was a true conservation hero and we will carry on the work to save southern Africa's white and black rhinos from the threat of extinction. African Conservation Trust

I was recently privileged to have met Lawrence Anthony at Thula Thula. His compassion, kindness and love of nature shine through. He will be greatly missed by all and in particular the animals he so dedicatedly loved and bravely championed. Deepest sympathy to his family. May grace surround you and may you find comfort in the mighty legacy he left behind. **Hamba Kahle. Rochelle Van Os.**

Lawrence Anthony was fearless in going to places to rescue wild animals such as in Iraq and taking on a small group of traumatised elephants and rehabilitating them. He made a great contribution to furthering our knowledge about wildlife. I salute a great conservationist and his untimely passing has left a great void. **Drummond Densham**