## For Immediate Release

June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Yesterday (June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025) was the day that all of us here at the Endangered Ark Foundation have been dreading and fearing for many years. Suzy, the matriarch of the herd, was peacefully laid to rest. Our hearts are breaking, and the sadness is overwhelming. The sadness rings through the Ark and is not only felt by the staff but by the other elephants. Losing any animal, you love and care for is always difficult, but this one truly has shaken our foundation. Suzy has been here at the Endangered Ark for more than 20 years. For over two decades she has won over the hearts of not only the staff but also the visitors that come from near and far. Suzy taught us more about love, patience, strength, and resilience than words can describe. No other elephant has touched so many hearts all over this country and she was truly the definition of an ambassador for her species. She always had a special way to connect with people, and you could not help but fall in love with her. She had a feistiness to her and was often called stubborn, but it was those loving traits that kept her alive for so long. Suzy was the oldest known elephant on the North American continent; she died at the age of 74 years old... just shy of her 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. She was a cherished member of our EAF family, and she was the heart of our foundation. Suzy is truly a legend and a part of history that will be forever etched in our hearts, and we will be forever grateful for the time we shared with her. Rest In Peace sweet girl...