

# In Loving Memory of DaVinci

*The Noble One*



## **Wagontale's DaVinci Schatz**

*26 March 2012, Ft Collins, Colorado - 17 March 2021, Oxford, England*

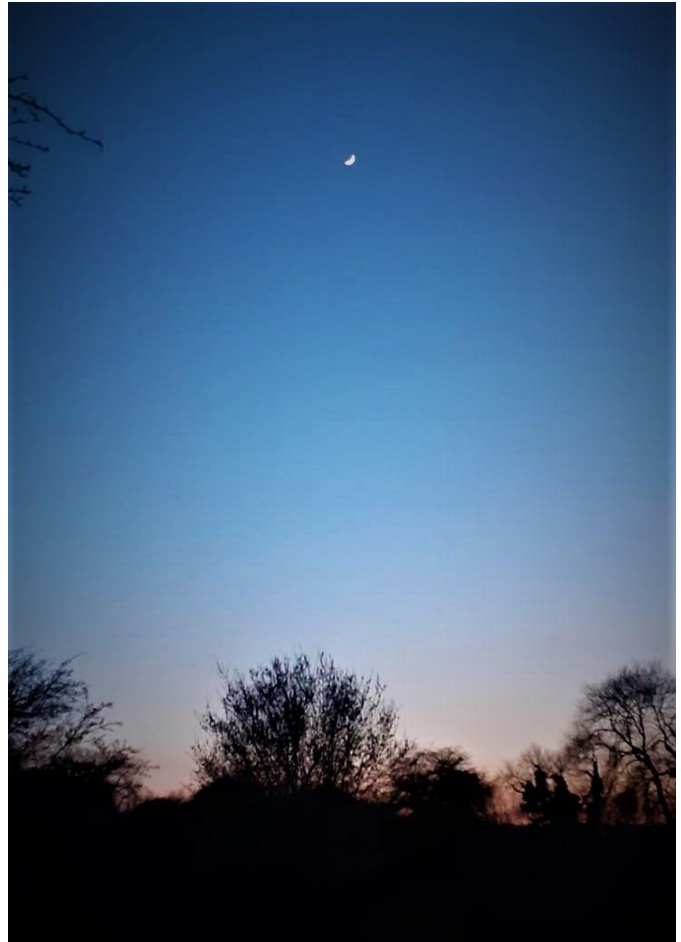


*It is with the greatest of sorrows, the depth of pain and a broken heart that I have to say goodbye to one of the most noble, gentle, kind, loving and soulful Bernese Mountain Dogs that has ever walked this planet: our most incredible, majestic and beloved, DaVinci Schatz.*

*On St Patrick's day and just days before his 9th birthday, my sweet boy lay down beside me on the soft green grass for the very last time. Before he closed his eyes, he looked up into mine with his big, soft brown eyes and I could see him...hear him saying, "It's going to be all right, Mommy. I'm at peace and I want you to be, too". He then lay down his sweet head and fell into a peaceful sleep, whilst the most amazing sunset watched over us, gentling transcended his loving soul into the life beyond. His brother, Nikolai came to sit with us and knew. It was the end of this world for our dearest DaVinci.*

*But that was not all. The power of DaVinci's spirit remained. On this rare, crystal clear, blue skyed, English evening (where it would typically be overcast or raining), out of this miraculous sunset, and just minutes later, arose the most magnificent Crescent Moon I've ever beheld. It rose high, proud and powerful up into the heaven's. DaVinci's soul arising. I have no doubt. For as he was passing, I kissed him and whispered to him the names of the few closest to him back in his old home of Telluride, Colorado, and told him by name how much each of them loved him and would miss him. For I knew they were thinking of him during these exact moments, and were wishing that they could have given him a last loving hug.*

*I captured a picture of the "DaVinci Crescent Moon" arising and sent it to his beloved Colorado friends and family...so that later that evening, as night-time fell on Colorado, they could also gaze up at him and wish him farewell. It was magical. DaVinci showing himself in such a magnificent way to all those looking for him as he departed. It was as noble and loving and caring as a Dog, a Berner or a Being saying goodbye could ever get.*



*Although I feel as if a huge part of me has been torn out, his Crescent Moon rising, symbolized hope, new beginnings and life going on - whether here or over the Rainbow Bridge. He is now no longer in his suffering body, yet frolicking with his beloved Alpen Schatz brothers, Schlappi, Smokie Bear, Valentino and Hagen, along with his kitty sisters, Salsa and Tango.*

*He was loved not only by us, but around the world by Alpen Schatz fans and gave joy, from tiny children to people of all ages. He lived a full rich life, from sampling the show dog life at the National Specialty in 2013, Loveland, Colorado, to hiking the majestic mountains of Telluride, Colorado - first with his brother Valentino and then with his brother Nikolai.*

*He was visited by tens of thousands of tourists and Alpen Schatz fans at our tiny boutique in Telluride over the years, being the favourite highlight of their trip for many a tourist. And not to mention all of the pictures taken of him by his fans! He was a real ham and knew how to put on a perfect pose and a smile, each and every time.*

*He loved to be with me and his family and loved to travel wherever we could take him. He travelled as far west as the remote Olympic Peninsula in Washington State, Seattle and Leavenworth. He got to camp out in the great Black Rock Desert and go hiking amongst cacti in Moab canyons. He also loved our camping trips at Woods Lake, near Telluride, Colorado and hiking many of the other breath-taking spots in the San Juan Rocky Mountains.*

*In 2019, he made the big transatlantic crossing to green, grassy England, where he went from chasing bears and porcupines in the wilds of the Rocky Mountains, to chasing deer and big fat grey squirrels, in addition to learning how NOT to chase sheep or encounter swans, in pastoral England.*

*He loved "dress-up" and being photographed, from Santa's helper, to the Leprechaun or the Easter Bunny. For many years he was THE chief Bernese Swiss wagon puller, leading our Alpen Schatzi's with pride in the Telluride 4th of July parade.*

*When just a puppy, he, along with Valentino and Hagen, were the center spread in a local book of Telluride dogs called "Good to the Bone - Tails of Telluride" by Artist Stevie Decker. The book sold for years in our shop and many a child asked for his autograph. So many cherished memories. Rest in peace, my big, most gentle, beautiful, loving boy! Words cannot express the loss I feel. Life is not balanced anymore here without you. Nikolai and I miss you terribly, but we know you had to move on.*

*I know that passing on this sacred day, that St Patrick has helped to guide you, dear DaVinci, safely across the Rainbow Bridge. We all wish you beautiful pastures and forests in which to run and play and companionship with those who have already arrived and who have been awaiting you.*

*Thank you for giving not only me, but many others such an incredible amount of love, joy, loyalty, soul and comfort with your forever gentle, unmatched nature.*

*You will be forever missed...until we meet again.*

*I love you, DaVinci!*

*Forever, your Mommy, Mary Dawn* 🍷💔💔💔🌙🌈



*October 2020, Marazion, Cornwall, England*