

# ZOONOOZ<sup>®</sup>

SAN DIEGO ZOO GLOBAL

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Hello, Baby Hippo  
Fossa Fun at the Zoo  
Understanding Tarantulas  
Secrets of Floss Silk Trees



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BY DONNA PARHAM

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San Diego Zoo Global is proud to honor conservationist Ian Craig with our Lifetime Achievement Award.

BY MARY SEKULOVICH

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ON THE COVER:

*Fossa Cryptoprocta ferox*

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Floss silk tree flower *Ceiba speciosa*

PHOTOS BY:

Tammy Spratt, SDZG Photographer



# IAN CRAIG

## 2017 CONSERVATION MEDALIST— LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Ian Craig has earned the trust and respect of the communities he partnered with and served through Lewa.



BY MARY SEKULOVICH, SENIOR EDITOR | DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Since the 1980s, probably no single person in Kenya has had more influence in advancing the cause of wildlife conservation than Ian Craig.

Growing up shoulder to shoulder with tribal Kenyans, Ian understands their culture, the needs of the community, and how best to help local people and wildlife coexist in ways that benefit both. It all began with the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy on the Craig ranch and led to the Northern Rangelands Trust, making the Craig name a byword for conservation in the region.

Most of Ian's life has been spent in northern Kenya, where he and his father, David Craig, along with conservationist Anna Merz, converted thousands of acres of their family's 62,000-acre cattle ranch into Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary in 1983 to protect endangered black rhinos. This was the height of the rhino and elephant poaching crisis, and the sanctuary flourished when few others did. The sanctuary soon doubled in size, and in 1995 it was renamed the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, with Ian serving as executive director until 2009. Lewa has continued to actively promote conservation on its land and with communities that set aside land for wildlife conservation. In 2004, Ian headed the effort to form the Northern Rangelands Trust, which today supports more than 35 community wildlife conservancies in northern Kenya.

It is virtually impossible to place a value on what Ian Craig has done to protect rhinos, elephants, Grevy's zebras—one of Lewa's flagship species—and countless other species. It is his life's work and will never end, because now so many others have come together to protect their native habitat and its animals, as more wildlife conservancies are formed and more communities are engaged. San Diego Zoo Global is honored to present Ian Craig with its 2017 Conservation Medal, the Lifetime Achievement Award. ■

PHOTOS BY: JUAN PABLO MOREIRAS (TOP); KEN BOHN, SDZG (BOTTOM)