

**LEWA WILDLIFE
CONSERVANCY
KENYA**

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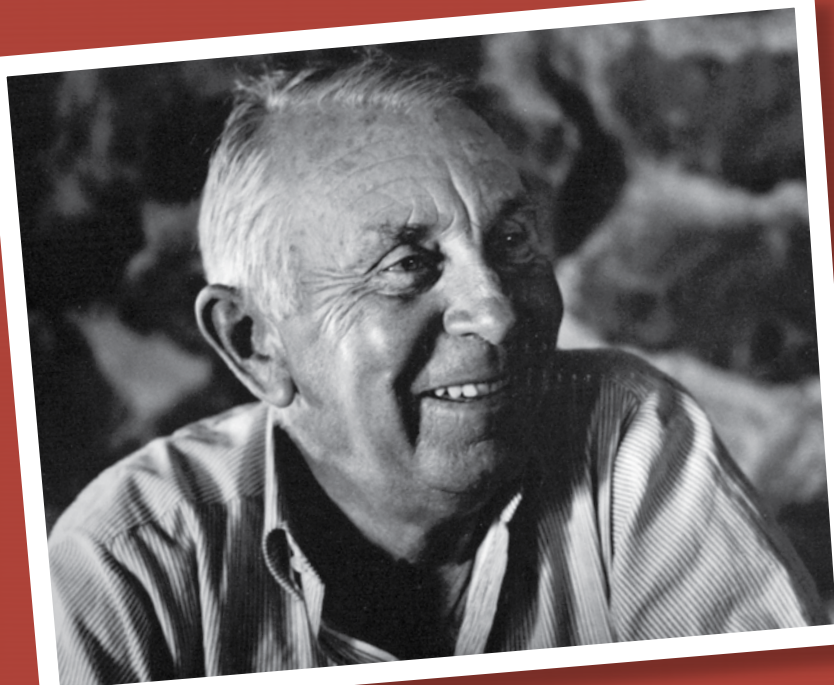
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Our Mission

The Lewa Wildlife Conservancy works as a catalyst for the conservation of wildlife and its habitat. It does this through the protection and management of species, the initiation and support of community conservation and development programmes, and the education of neighbouring areas in the value of wildlife.

Mzee David Craig, 1924-2009



model for wildlife conservation on private land in eastern Africa.

Mzee's role in that transformation is all too often underplayed. Of all those with responsibility for land in this part of Africa, he recognised, far more than most, that the future of our wildlife and wild lands depends on commitment to both conservation, and the direct benefits conservation can and does generate for communities.

When remembering David, Anna Merz, who co-founded the Conservancy with David and his family, said "I miss David terribly. I had tremendous respect and liking for him. He was a very special person, very strong morally and hugely compassionate, and with a great breadth of intellect. David always understood, from the beginning that we would need to create a periphery of wealth around Lewa if it was going to work. He spoke of community conservation way before others did and he spoke of bringing rhinos back to the north of Kenya one day. Everything that is happening now was already in his head in 1982. He was a true pioneer."

The Conservancy has been fortunate to have had Mzee as a founding Patron, and is privileged to be responsible for taking forwards all that he began here on Lewa so many years ago. Rest in peace, Mzee.

On August 6th, at the age of 84, Mzee David Craig died peacefully in Nanyuki Cottage Hospital with his family by his side.

There are few people on this earth who will leave such a lasting legacy. Here on the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, all of us are acutely aware of the critical role he played in transforming Lewa into what it has become, the leading