



**ELEPHANTSTAY**  
not for profit

Elephant  
Rumbles  
Extra

# DokMak RIP 8/5/2010

**It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to our beloved DokMak, aged 82. Teacher, friend, matriach, Dok Mak touched our hearts in a special way.**

In Buddhism, elephants are symbolic of physical and mental strength, as well as responsibility and earthiness. Dok Mak embodied the noble gentleness that makes elephants special. Dok Mak inspired us to create the Elephantstay program. She was with us from the beginning. It is with great love in our hearts that we bid Dok Mak farewell on her journey to a better World.



## DokMak, a short history.

Dok Mak was named after the flower from the betel nut tree. She was born in North East Maesarian district in the Mae Hong Song Province in 1930. She was sold to the Royal Elephant Kraal in 1996. It was thought she was a young pregnant female. The previous owner had dyed her with a tree bark extract to lessen her pigmentation, (pigmentation increases with age generally). Dok Mak previously worked hard in the logging industry in the Salwin forest, near the Myanmar border. One day she was involved in an accident and hurt her back. She could no longer work logging so the owner decided to sell her to the Royal Elephant Kraal. She cost about 170,000 baht. When she came she could not do anything. DokMak was given the treatment and care she needed. When she



was fully recovered she did for a short time give taxi rides to tourists in town. Dok Mak was a special elephant. She was easy to understand. Dok Mak had the dignity and status of a matriarch. To this end she has given a lot back to the Royal Elephant Kraal. DokMak taught many people about elephants,

from mahouts to the local children and of course all the foreigners who came to Elephantstay. Dok Mak was happy that the Kraal had bred so many elephants, She loved being with the new born babies. She would stand still for an hour while a baby napped at her feet so as not to disturb them.

She loved the babies sucking on her breast. She would put her leg forward for the baby to easier reach her breast. The interaction between our youngest and oldest elephants was very rewarding for all of us at Elephantstay and the Royal Elephant Kraal.

DokMak got to meet many interesting people and elephants in her lifetime, including Hollywood director Oliver Stone, and actors Angelina Jolie and Colin Farrell on the set of Alexander where she was an extra.

On the morning of the 8th May 2010, DokMak walked around to many elephants. In hindsight we know it was to say goodbye. She walked through the Kraal across the road, and past the Ancient Brahmin Shrine full of phallic symbols, (she always was a flirt) to the canal where she played in the water for the last time.

We got her back to the Kraal, then gave her more medicine and IV fluids but in the afternoon she started to convulse, fell over and died. It was mercifully quick.

On the morning of the 9th May, the monks came, and we made our farewell ceremony. She is now buried next to her friends LoongSap, ChongKo and Youee in the field.

We love you DokMak.



We at Elephantstay want to thank all the Elephantstayers who ever knew Dok Mak and contributed to her well being and welfare at Elephantstay.

As you know we are not having a great month, with all the political problems in Bangkok adversely affecting people coming to Thailand, and the loss of DokMak is not making it easier. Many of you have sent us much appreciated emails and even donations. We want to thank you for your valued support.

If you have not yet donated and would like to you can do so through paypal here.  
<http://www.elephantstay.com/donate-to-elephants.html>



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