BPD, community stunned and saddened by death of K-9 Jardo days after shooting

The police dog, shot along with two Boise officers Friday as they worked to apprehend a violent suspect, went home with his handler one day after surgery and had appeared headed for a full recovery. Jardo was a star attraction at a vigil for police officers Tuesday night, and Chief Bill Bones told the crowd Jardo was expected to defy initial expectations and return to work on “light duty.”

But one day later, Jardo suddenly became ill and his handler brought him to WestVet, where he died late Wednesday of a heart attack caused by internal bleeding from his injuries, Dr. Jeff Brourman, a veterinarian at WestVet who helped treat Jardo, said at a Thursday afternoon press conference. In a police news release, WestVet said two surgeons worked to save his life, but he had lost too much blood.

The board for the Idaho Peace Officers’ Memorial, where Tuesday’s vigil was held, is considering adding a separate memorial at the Meridian site to honor fallen police dogs. Board president Mike Johnson said Thursday that the idea, still in its early stages, was discussed Monday night, when Jardo was still expected to recover.

Jardo will get a memorial service in line with what any other officer would receive. Police Chief Bill Bones said. The details of that service are being worked out and will be released soon, a department spokeswoman said.
“Jardo served our community, and though we were blessed with these few extra days to share with him, he ultimately gave his life in the protection of fellow officers,” Bones said. “The support and prayer that we have seen from this community has carried us through and continues to carry us through.”

Jardo, who joined BPD in 2013, was rushed to WestVet, a Garden City trauma veterinary hospital, immediately after the shooting Friday. Despite losing a lung, he was out of the hospital the next day. On Wednesday, he visited the police station, “seeking out BPD members for every bit of petting he could obtain,” according to a Boise police news release.

On Tuesday, he attended a vigil honoring Cpl. Kevin Holtry and Cpl. Chris Davis, who were wounded in the shootout, and police officers in general. The crowd at the vigil chanted “Jardo, Jardo” when handler Shane Williams brought the Belgian Malinois out.

Since the news of Jardo’s death, some have suggested his name be added to the wall honoring fallen Idaho officers at the memorial, but Johnson said the K-9’s death, while widely mourned, doesn’t fall into the same category. But it does make it more likely, he said, that an idea already under discussion for a separate K-9 memorial on the site will come to fruition.

Requirements for that memorial would parallel those for the human memorial, he said: Any police dog that died from injuries received in the line of duty. At least three or four police Idaho dogs fit that requirement, he said, including Jardo and Roscoe, the Emmett police dog who died when the police car he was riding in was rear-ended in July.

Boise police suggested three ways to donate in memory of Jardo:
1. To the Boise Police Canine Foundation through the Idaho Community Foundation.
2. To WestVet’s Audrey Pet Foundation.
3. To Animal Medical Center Boise.

**INJURED BOISE OFFICER’S CONDITION IMPROVES**

A Boise Police corporal injured in a Friday shootout with a fugitive, has been upgraded to serious condition at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center, a hospital spokesman said Thursday evening.

The officer, a member of the Special Operations Unit and a 17-year veteran of the BPD, had been listed in critical condition since he was shot multiple times Friday afternoon. The Police Chief said his corporal faces a long, difficult recovery but is tough and resilient.

A second SOU member was shot once in the leg and released from Saint Alphonsus the next day. Police dog Jardo was shot once in the chest, had been expected to make a full recovery, but died unexpectedly late Wednesday.

The suspect died of multiple gunshot wounds.
Comprehension questions – answers may be in phrases.

1. In what specific location are Idaho police officers who die in the line of duty honored?

2. What, likely, will be listed as the official cause of Jardo’s death?

3. Define handler as used in the article.

4. Who is the chief of police in Boise, Idaho?

5. Define fruition as used in the text.

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Answer each question in one or more complete sentences and by providing complete explanations.

1. For what reason may the BPD consider WestVet a suitable organization to make a donation in Jardo’s honor?

2. Explain why the final few paragraphs are in smaller, italicized font.

7/8.RI.2,6
3. Should the death of a police canine be treated in the same manner as the death of a police officer? State your claim; answer in a well-developed paragraph citing from the text to support your claim.

4. According to the City of Boise, the second injured SOU officer had 16 years of BPD experience. Considering this information, how many total years of experience did the three injured officers have altogether?