

**NEWS RELEASE****CONTACT:**

Anna Estrada  
616.451.0236 x35  
anna@lifeonthestreet.org

Sharice Purman  
616.389.7583  
sharice@lifeonthestreet.org

**Strojan Family Honors Guiding Light Mission**

Guiding Light Mission is presented a memorial plaque by the family of a START Program alumni

Guiding Light Mission was honored to receive a memorial plaque from the family of Howard Strojan, a START Program alum, who passed away unexpectedly on July 6, 2010.

“He was a very magnetic person,” said Alisa Strojan, daughter of Howard Strojan.

Alisa and sister Brooke Tanning chose to commemorate Guiding Light Mission for the care and life-changing rehabilitation program that their father experienced there just two years prior to his passing.

“When we first had an intervention with my dad he was skin and bones,” said Alisa. “We didn’t know where to take him, and couldn’t afford rehab until finally we found Guiding Light Mission. They didn’t take a dime, and gave dad all the tools he needed to get healthy. Just 6 months later, the dad we grew up with was back.”

Alisa and her family presented a wooden plaque in loving memory of Howard Strojan to Guiding Light Mission on Sunday, July 25 during the noon chapel service.

“Even though we only had dad back for two years before he passed, we were able to start a relationship with him. I have two small children, his only grandchildren, and he was able to spend time to get to know them,” said Alisa. “There is no greater gift that you could have given to us.”

Those currently in the START Program, as well as community members enjoying lunch & chapel service at Guiding Light Mission, were present for the service.

“Our thoughts and prayers are with the Strojan family as they grieve the loss of a father, grandfather, husband and friend,” said Stuart Ray, executive director of Guiding Light Mission. “Knowing that we were able to help not only Howard but his family is invaluable to us.”

[more]

## **About Guiding Light Mission**

Guiding Light Mission provides day shelter and meals to anyone in the community in need. An average of 8,000 meals per month is served to men, women and children at Guiding Light Mission and nearly 12,500 pounds of food is distributed to local charities and emergency food basket providers. Guiding Light Mission provides emergency overnight shelter for upwards of 68 men nightly, and offers a Christian based, residential substance abuse and life recovery program known as START (Spiritual Truth And Recovery Training). The Mission is funded entirely by private donations and relies extensively on volunteers.

**For more information about Guiding Light Mission, please visit [www.lifeonthestreet.org](http://www.lifeonthestreet.org).**  
Follow Guiding Light Mission updates on Facebook at Life on the Street.

###