

To: Area Media
Date: August 24, 2007
From: Yavapai Exceptional Industries
Re: Larry Strom's Legacy to Yavapai Exceptional Industries (YEI!)
Contact: Brad Newman, 928-445-0991



Strom Memorial benefits Yavapai County Manufacturing Industry

Prescott, Arizona – Friends and family of Dr. Larry Strom gathered recently at Yavapai Exceptional Industries' Washington Avenue facility to commemorate his life with a memorial honoring Dr. Strom's many contributions to YEI! and to the Prescott community.

Larry Strom was tragically killed in a motorcycle accident in the fall of 2006.

In addition to his many years of service on YEI!'s Board of Directors, Larry was also a founding faculty college member of Yavapai College and eventually was named faculty senate president. Larry's leadership in the field of manufacturing and technology naturally lead to a close involvement with YEI!, where he and many of his students greatly influenced the ever-developing industrial capacity of the entire YEI! suite of facilities. In turn, many of the region's manufacturers have benefited through production contracts with YEI!

Beyond his contributions to Yavapai College and YEI!, Dr. Strom's career included employment at the U.S. Geological Survey Center for Astrogeology in Flagstaff, where he worked alongside the NASA space program, as well as collaborations with technology programs at community colleges throughout California and Arizona.

Perhaps Larry's most significant contribution to YEI! was his involvement in the renaming and revisioning of YEI!. Formerly known as the Yavapai Rehabilitation Center, in the mid 90's the program determined that a name change to something more topical was called for. Though dozens of names were proposed, Strom quickly recognized a connection between the suggested new moniker, "Yavapai Exceptional Industries" and the symbol for an ancient Navajo deity. This symbol, the "yei," is a term connoting holy people who provide healing and protection.

YEI! has established a memorial fund in Dr. Strom's memory, which will ensure continued development of technology and increased sophistication of YEI's production facilities and capacity at both its current plants and those in development.

For more information on the Strom Memorial, please contact Brad Newman, YEI! Executive Director, at 928-445-0991.



Family of Dr. Larry Strom gathered at YEI! recently to commemorate his life with a memorial.

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