



John's Story

John suffered a stroke leaving him with right sided weakness and affected speech. He had great difficulty communicating, was unable to perform his own personal care and was challenged with eating. Following his stroke he resided in a nursing facility for rehabilitation. His daughter and son-in-law wanted to bring him to live with them but were fearful that they would be unable to provide all the care he would need. They were also concerned for their jobs due to the time commitment in caring for him. John was an entertainer for many years so the difficulty he suffered with speaking and connecting his thoughts was very difficult and frustrating, and he quickly developed anxiety and depression.

In his search for an answer he found LIFE! Once enrolled in the LIFE program John was discharged from the rehab facility and moved in with his daughter. At LIFE he began a rigorous routine of physical, occupational and speech therapies. With the supports and care offered by the program John was able to rebuild his endurance and balance, regain control of his speech and improve his ability to connect the appropriate words into logical statements.

John improved so much that he was able to successfully serve as the Master of Ceremonies and deliver the opening address at the Caregiver Appreciation Luncheon at the Center, and tell his story at the SpiriTrust Lutheran Good Samaritan Recognition Dinner. John said, "This is the best place I have ever been and I don't know where I'd be without the LIFE program."