Her Story: On his 50th birthday, Sidney started to feel very ill and crawled next door for help. An ambulance rushed him to the hospital, but the effects from a massive stroke had already taken a heavy toll on Sidney’s brain and he died shortly thereafter.

This was a tough time for the family – to realize that Sidney would not come back. “Gigi at Midwest Transplant Network helped us through this painful time,” says Louise, Sidney’s mother. “Losing a child is the hardest thing I’ll ever go through, but the love and comfort shown by Gigi helped us through the process. We consider Gigi part of the family now.”

“The pain never goes away, it just becomes more familiar,” says Lisa, Sidney’s sister. “Sidney was able to help so many families, and our hope is that someday we’ll be able to meet these people so they know what a good man he was.”