## Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO) to Honor Les Skramstad with Alan Reinstein Memorial Award

## Asbestos Victim to be Posthumously Recognized at Third Annual Asbestos Awareness Day Conference

**Redondo Beach, CA ... February 8, 2007 ---** The Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO), an organization dedicated to serving as the voice of asbestos victims, today announced that asbestos victim Les Skramstad will be posthumously honored with the *Alan Reinstein Memorial Award*. Les was a Montana miner who lost his eleven year battle to diseases caused by asbestos on January 21, 2007 at age 70.

On March 31<sup>st</sup>, Les will be honored for his unwavering commitment to justice and asbestos disease awareness at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Asbestos Awareness Day Conference in Philadelphia. He remained a beacon of hope and truth for nearly fifty years, even during his battle with asbestosis and mesothelioma. Les worked as a sweeper at Zonolite, a vermiculite mine in Libby, Montana for three years.

"We are pleased to honor Les Skramstad with the *Alan Reinstein Memorial Award*," said Linda Reinstein, Executive Director and Cofounder of Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO). "Les not only fought a deadly asbestos disease, but also worked for decades to raise awareness about its dangers. We will always remember him as we continue our fight to prevent diseases caused by deadly asbestos fibers."

The *Alan Reinstein Memorial Award* was created in honor of Alan Reinstein who served as the former President of ADAO and activist before his death in early 2006 of mesothelioma, an asbestos-related disease.

The occurrence of asbestos-related diseases, including mesothelioma, lung cancer and asbestosis, is growing out of control. Studies estimate that during the next decade, 100,000 victims in the United States will die of an asbestos related disease – equaling 30 deaths per day.

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## About Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization

Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO) was founded by asbestos victims and their families in 2004. ADAO seeks to give asbestos victims a united voice to help ensure that their rights are fairly represented and protected, and raise public awareness about the dangers of asbestos exposure and the often deadly asbestos related diseases. ADAO is funded through voluntary contributions and staffed by volunteers. For more information visit www.asbestosdiseaseawareness.org.

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