IN MEMORIAM: STANISLAW FLIS, PIASA'S VISITING ARCHIVIST 1999-2001

It with great sadness that I received the news of the sudden and premature death of Stanisław Flis, noted archivist from Gdańsk, Poland. According to his wife Iwona, Stanisław died in his sleep on July 20, 2014 from an apparent heart attack. He was 49 years old. Many Polish Institute members and friends will remember Stanisław Flis, for the outstanding, fundamental contributions he made to PIASA during his two year tenure as Visiting Archivist from March 1999 to March 2001. It was during this two year period of intensive, “above and beyond the call of duty” work that Flis reorganized and transformed PIASA archives in accordance with highest professional standards. It was he who moved the documents that had been scattered in various closets and floors into one archival storage room on the fourth floor of PIASA's townhouse. Then after organizing the documents he published the inventories of the archival collections on the Internet. PIASA's website was further enriched by his creation of the Archival Information Center which gave essential information about Polish collections in various archives in both the United States and Canada. Flis thus helped enormously to make PIASA a most important research center on Polish and Polish American studies. In 2004 he edited a 658 page guide to PIASA Archives in Polish, “Przewodnik Po Zbiorach Archiwalnych: Polski Instytut Naukowy” published by Naczelna Dyrekcja Arciwów Państwowych in Warsaw and published an article, “The Archives of the Polish Institute of Arts & Sciences of America” which appeared in a special issue of *The Polish American Studies, Vol. LX, No. 1, 2003*. I am sure that members of PIASA join me in extending our condolences to Stanisław Flis' widow Iwona and to his parents. He will be long remembered by us. May he rest in peace.

Dr. Thaddeus V. Gromada, Past President and Executive Director, PIASA