

[MUSIC PLAYING]

CALLER: Well--

HOST: And so--

CALLER: --they--

HOST: Yeah.

CALLER: You remember Mary's panel?

HOST: All of the Mary's panels. There were so many of them. Yes, I do.

CALLER: That struck me. And my friend was not part of that. However, seeing that panel and seeing those people--

HOST: I knew all of those people.

CALLER: I didn't know all of them. But that segment of panels brought me to my knees. McAdory's panel--

HOST: Mac's panel, yeah.

CALLER: Lord McAdory, seeing that at the far end of that quilt was a moving experience. And I know there are people out here, listening to me, who saw it also.

HOST: Well, there are a lot of people listening to this. All kinds of people listen to the *After Hours* show, insomniacs, people on their [INAUDIBLE].

CALLER: No. [LAUGHS] So, yes, lots of insomniacs.

HOST: And so I want to say something that, perhaps, will help those people that didn't experience the cruelties you-- or haven't experienced losing someone to AIDS, as everyone in this room has. Let me tell you. I am 47 years old. I have lost more of my friends to AIDS and violence than my mother has of her friends, and she's 74.

That is an unnatural environment. That sort of thing ought never, in the history of humankind, to happen. But I have learned more about life from the direct experience of learning about death.

I know how precious every minute that I have is. And I know how precious every minute that I spend with a friend is to my hope in the world. I want to invite you to start planning, now, to make time available on Mother's Day 1988, so that you can come and experience the rich tapestry of people young and old, straight and gay, who have died, in at least some small part, of the hope that never again will we hate one another, never again will we waste our lives.

LEA DELARIA: I want you to savor this next moment. I have the proud task of telling you that the official count of the Lesbian and Gay Rights March, the official count is over 500,000 strong! 500,000 strong! Look at you! 500,000 strong!

[CHEERING]

500,000 strong, one of the largest marchers in the United States history!

[CHEERING]

One of the largest marches in United States history! 500,000 strong!

[MUSIC PLAYING]

HARVEY MILK: We must destroy the myths, once and for all, shatter them. We must continue to speak out. And most importantly, most importantly, every gay person must come out.

[CHEERING]

As difficult as it is, you must tell your immediate family. You must tell your relatives. You must tell your friends, if, indeed, they are your friends. You must tell your neighbors. You must tell the people you work with you. Must tell the people at the stores you shop in.

[CHEERING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

[APPLAUSE]

Once they realize that we are indeed their children, that we are indeed everywhere, every myth, every lie, every innuendo will be destroyed, once and for all. Once you do, you will feel so much better.

[CHEERING]

And I ask people all over this country to do one thing. Come out! Come out, America! Come out!

[MUSIC PLAYING]

BUDDY Well, good morning.

JOHNSTON:

TERRI: Good morning.

BUDDY How are you, baby?

JOHNSTON:

TERRI: All right. You?

BUDDY [LAUGHS] I'm tired.

JOHNSTON:

TERRI: You're tired. You've got every reason to be tired.

BUDDY Oh, God, help me get through the night. It's been a beautiful day, hasn't it?

JOHNSTON:

TERRI: Oh, wonderful.

BUDDY Just in case you don't know where you are, this is KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. And you're listening to *After Hours*

JOHNSTON: radio, celebrating life from the heart of Montrose. Yes.

TERRI: Yay!

BUDDY And did we see a lot of life today?

JOHNSTON:

TERRI: Oh, a lot of life.

BUDDY A lot of life, and love, and energy. Oh, it was wonderful. And we're going to tell you all about it. In case you don't

JOHNSTON: know what we're talking about, it's called the NAMES project.

TERRI: Yes.

BUDDY And it's lying on the floor of the George R. Brown Convention Center this morning.

JOHNSTON:

TERRI: Beautifully lying on the floor.

BUDDY Yes, we were down there about 6 o'clock this morning, putting it on the floor. And we're going to tell you all

JOHNSTON: about that. Going to tell you all about Lesbian Gay Pride Week. And what else are we going to tell you about? Does anybody know?

TERRI: Everything.

BUDDY Clay is in there, but I don't know which button to push to get Clay.

JOHNSTON:

[LAUGHTER]

He's not on line.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Maybe I'll feel better if we can find Alan. Here he is.

TERRI: Alan.

BUDDY Are you ready?

JOHNSTON:

TERRI: Ready.

BUDDY Here we go.

JOHNSTON:

HOST: (SINGING) We're queer.

TERRI: Yes!

[LAUGHTER]

That sounds familiar.

BUDDY Yeah, I miss Alan. Anyway, *After Hours* radio, celebrating live from the heart of Montrose. Getting ready to tell
JOHNSTON: you about the Names project, so stay tuned. Call your friends, and call your mama. And call everybody up and tell them that it's time to get real, kids, because the quilts here. And we're going to tell you all about a lot of love. Right, Terri?

TERRI: Right.

HOST: It was exciting, wasn't it?

TERRI: Oh, it was wonderful.

HOST: Watching that quilt come open this morning.

TERRI: Yes. The hugs-- that was great, great.

HOST: Mm, there were a couple of tears.

TERRI: Couple?

HOST: Oh, well. Three or four.

[LAUGHING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

This is called fascination. And we were fascinated with the quilt. And if you weren't there, well, I'm going to chew you out in just a minute. Give us a call at 526-4000 if you were there because we want you to tell everyone how beautiful it was.

And call somebody up, and tell them to turn the radio on. And listen to the queers and the dykes. They're getting ready to take over for the next two hours. Right?

TERRI: We're here.

[LAUGHTER]

HOST: Allen says that we can't do that. In the meantime, we'll figure out where Clay and Dennis are. They're here somewhere on one of the buttons I made. They're just sitting there smiling.

TERRI: They look so cute.

HOST: I know. Let's punch buttons and find them, OK?

TERRI: OK.

HOST: OK.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

(CROWD CHANTING) Gay rights! When do we want it? Now! What do we want? Gay rights! When do we want it? Now! What do we want? Gay rights! When do we want it? Now! What do we want? Gay rights! When do we want it? Now! What do we want? Gay rights? When do we want it? Now! What do we want? Gay rights! When do we want it? Now!

SINGER: (SINGING) Come out of the closet. And love me. Come out of the closet, be free. Come, come, come, come out of the closet. Come, come, come, I know it's too dark in there. So come out, come out away, then scream and shout. And see everybody everywhere!

WOMAN: It's all right, you may all come out. (SINGING) Come out, come out, wherever you are.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

HOST: They're in there counting the number of times we're going to play that.

TERRI: They've already started it.

HOST: I know, isn't that funny?

[LAUGHING]

One-- well, who's number one. 526-4000, right?

TERRI: Right.

HOST: --is the number to call, the number to call.

TERRI: Number to call us.

HOST: And it's a sin if you don't call.

TERRI: It sure is.

HOST: Counted Not as Numbers is the name of the program. We're going to hear it in just a few minutes. It's going to tell you all about the NAMES Project National Tour, so stay tuned. This is *After Hours*, radio celebrating life in the heart of Montrose.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

It's a sin. It's a sin.

[HUMMING]

[CHUCKLES]

Hey, I went out to Sharpstown and make one of those record. They wouldn't let me play it here, you know.

[LAUGHTER]

It's a sin. It certainly is. If you don't go see the Quilt in the George R. Brown Convention Center this weekend, it certainly is a sin. Right, Dennis?

DENNIS: Amen, brother.

HOST: Amen, Brother Ben.

DENNIS: That's it.

HOST: Shot the goose and killed the hen. The hen died, the goose cried. And I can't remember the rest of that.

TERRI: Come on!

DENNIS: Well, that's just--

HOST: Remember the rest of it.

DENNIS: You start something you can't finish.

HOST: Hey.

TERRI: Ooh.

HOST: Thank you so much.

[LAUGHING]

Well, anyway, the Quilt is here.

TERRI: Yay!

[APPLAUSE]

HOST: We got two official unfolders in there, right?

GUEST: That's right.

HOST: Except the-- what were you doing down there? Just hugging people?

TERRI: I was hugging people and--

HOST: You're hugging me.

TERRI: --loving people.

HOST: Because see, Roger and I were asked to be readers. My lover and I were asked to be readers, which I thought was real nice.

TERRI: You all did wonderful.

HOST: And well, the problem with that was we were like number 11 or 12 on the list. We read right after Annise Parker. And as Annise was getting closer to the end, Roger was squeezing our hand. Don't be nervous. Don't start crying. Just get up there, and read. And I was going, [CHUCKLES] yeah, sure. OK.

But what was bad about it, the list they gave me, one of the names on the list had Bob Hodge, a dear friend of mine. His lover from the Montrose Counseling Center was on my list.

TERRI: Mm-hmm.

HOST: So I said, can I have another list? They just kind of looked at me. But I had my Teddy bear there.

TERRI: I know.

HOST: She's right here, wearing her NAMES Project button, which everyone out there should be wearing.

TERRI: Yes.

HOST: You guys were on the Quilt, right?

DENNIS AND CLAY: Yes. That's right.

CLAY:

HOST: Dennis and Clay. We'll be telling you about that in a little bit. Got some music from Joan Baez I want to play for you. And this is called *Brothers in Arms*. And although it's *Brothers in Arms*, you can certainly see love if you go down to the convention center this weekend. It's absolutely free.

The NAMES Project Quilt on display on a 20-city tour. This is the eighth city I believe in the tour-- seventh or eighth.

TERRI: Eighth.

HOST: And we've got a program called Counted Not as Numbers that we're going to be running in just a little bit. And you need to stay tuned for that. Ray Hill just walk in, and we're going to get the scoop on the Westheimer. So Joan Baez is going to come at you. And in a second, Ray will be here.

And just stay tuned. It's going to be a beautiful day. And give us a call at 526-4000 if you saw the Quilt because we want to hear from you.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Such a beautiful song.

RAY HILL: Oh, yeah.

HOST: Every man has to die. But do they have to die so young, right?

RAY HILL: So many of them have died young. It's really excruciating. Of course, this has been-- we were just discussing that. I was just in a roundtable of people singing. Some have had it. There's enough, enough of the death and the dying. And people don't really care because they're not herds and herds of people at the convention center. There are a good many people indeed--

HOST: That's true.

RAY HILL: --at the convention center.

HOST: That strange voice, by the way, is Ray Hill. He's just--

RAY HILL: That's hardly strange with these microphones. [LAUGHS]

HOST: That's true. We were talking about reading names.

RAY HILL: Yeah. I had 48 names on my list. And there's obviously, room for only 32 panels in a section. And so I thought, well, what if they doubled up my section or something. And that didn't come out. The arithmetic on that didn't work. And so whenever the ritual-- and it was a very fine ritual.

Gay people are good at creating ritual. We make great priests and things.

HOST: Just a beautiful ceremony, is it?

RAY HILL: Because we created the ritual. And the ritual kind of finished by all of the people involved in the unfolding coming down and signing the panel in the northeast or southeast corner with their names and messages of their experience. First stuff has got to sign that later, but that was kind of the cap thing.

And then we were allowed onto the floor. And we poured out there. And I run to the panel where I had read. And all those names were children that had died in a San Francisco hospital. And that was a little bit overwhelming. It's been an overwhelming day.

For those of you who did not see the Quilt in Washington or have not seen it here in Houston, I would encourage you to carry your emotions down there and let them flow. It's kind of like taking a laxative and clearing things out to let all of that built-up anxiety. And you get rid of a lot of bitterness there over the loss of friends and your own fears.

It seems to help you through the hard times. And that has been that experience for the two times today that I'm going to spend a lot of time there this morning. And then I came back this evening early and spent a lot of time there. I will be back in the morning. My mother Frankie and my sister Kathy will be with me tomorrow.

That's kind of what we were doing as a family outing for Mother's Day. We're going to view the Quilt and then go right over to Chinese restaurants and have a Chinese Mother's Day.

HOST: The leaf they gave us-- one of the names on it was Bob Hodge's lover.

RAY HILL: Yeah.

HOST: That was kind of tough. We also had Liberace. And I told Roger before we went up to read, I said, no, to offset Bob Hodge's lover when I get to Liberace. I'm going to say, and ladies and gentlemen, Ms. Liberace.

[LAUGHTER]

He said no, don't say that.

RAY HILL: Don't do that, I see.

HOST: And talking about names and different things that were read today, when they were reading the names of all those police officers and Sheriff's deputies--

RAY HILL: It was tough for some folks.

HOST: Certainly was. I saw a couple of cops and Sheriff's deputies down there that had a little lump in their throat.

RAY HILL: Checking them out, right.

HOST: Certainly were. And they went over and looked at those panels, too. I watched them.

RAY HILL: In the 1979 March on Washington, I served on a committee which basically composed of a group of people from Black and white men together. And here on the book right there is the picture of their panel. Mill Boser was the chair of that committee. And his name is on that full panel. All of those people from Black and white men together.

There are only a couple of members of that committee that's still alive-- and I'm one of them-- which tells you how close to home it can get, people that you've worked with. I know a lot of names in that Quilt from activists that I've known around the country.

I remember having discussions with a young man about adopting the symbol of the lambda for the lesbian and gay rights movement. And his panel is there. And so many, many more.

HOST: Saw a panel down there with Mike Miesch name on it. Beautiful.

RAY HILL: Mike's panel is there and--

HOST: It's just beautiful.

RAY HILL: --Thomas John Greaves. And those panels were done by the women who do the women's place show here--

HOST: They were just beautiful.

RAY HILL: --on KPFT. And KPFT is prominently there. There are also folks from *Fruit Punch*, Walden Stein, an *After Hours* equivalent in San Francisco. And *IMRU* has a couple of panels there. And it's equivalent to gay-lesbian programming in Los Angeles.

HOST: Well, the Quilt's absolutely free, right?

RAY HILL: It's absolutely free. You will never be-- you are not as free now as you will be after you see it. So I suggest to you do that. I've been out on Westheimer tonight.

HOST: Yeah. We were talking earlier about the possible raid on Mary's. But now we find out that it isn't exactly what happened.

RAY HILL: I was greeted at the Quilt this morning by someone coming up and telling me, a lifelong friend of mine, who's a working reporter, telling me that Mary's had been raided last night. And I was shocked. And so after it was all over, I went down and checked that out. And that proved not in fact to be true.

They did, however, stop people as they were coming and going pretty evenly. Stopped just about everybody who was coming and going out of Mary's last night. And gave six or seven people a pretty serious hassle, including the Republican precinct judge from Precinct 34-- was hassled for a good long time. And Curtis got tickets and--

HOST: Oh, jeez.

RAY HILL: --was released. Fannie Farmer, the owner of Mary's, was carried down for DWI. And so I walked the length a couple of times, but I planted myself down at Mary's and watched that. And then people from Access Houston came over and wanted to videotape that.

I wanted a videotaped interview with me, so I started the interview. And they pulled up a couple of motorcycles and turned up the radios and created as much background noise, which is wonderful backdrop.

HOST: Yes. It's good--

RAY HILL: That wad tones. Low tones--

HOST: --sounds good on video.

RAY HILL: --screech.

HOST: Yeah. [LAUGHS]

RAY HILL: Low tones will beat that screech any day. And so people can hear what I'm saying.

HOST: You got to admit, the boys in blue over there-- because I work with a lot of those guys. They are pretty bored standing over there now because we don't have the throngs of children--

RAY HILL: Well, right now they are gone. So I mean, they fold up their tent and leave right at 2 o'clock. I mean--

HOST: Well, they have to get in the car, so they can tune in at *After Hours*.

RAY HILL: [LAUGHS] Of course.

HOST: Find out what we're doing.

RAY HILL: Glad to have you out there. The young Sergeant-- I hope the young Sergeant there working the corner of Wall Drive and Westheimer is listening because he copped a real serious attitude. His specialty was stopping Black folks in shiny cars. And he stopped-- I want you to know, if you were Black and you were driving a Lincoln Continental or a Corvette or some kind of shiny car and you went down Westheimer that you met this Sergeant.

Now, if you were white folks, you didn't meet him at all. Or if you were a Black person driving, I guess, what he thought to be an appropriate car for Black people to drive, something beat up and scratched, you didn't get stopped. But if you were Black driving a shiny car, he stopped every one of those. And he was kind of cute, a little pug-nosed, fluffy high-need officer in blue kind of raised a couple of things in the night.

But he was clearly asserting his need to demonstrate his macho in power of the badge and the gun. But other than that, things went pretty smoothly. Your local organizations, Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus was out on force. Half the board was patrolling Westheimer tonight at 2 o'clock.

Those people had never been up at that hour in recent years. And so it was interesting. I didn't see a lot of people get hassled tonight. But then, there weren't a lot of people down there too, has they?

HOST: No, Pride Week either. I mean, that's still--

RAY HILL: No, it'll probably get worse between now and then. I still have some concerns about the activities at Mary's last night. And I suppose, sometime in the course of the next week, we will raise those issues with the police department and talk about it.

HOST: Do you want to give another plea to folks to come down and see the Quilt?

RAY HILL: Oh, by all means.

HOST: I saw what you wrote on the little panel, by the way. That was kind of nice.

RAY HILL: Well, the quilt will bring a lot of things to different people's minds. And the thing that impressed me today-- I was overwhelmed by the emotion in Washington, DC. As a matter of fact, it's overwhelming, the emotion, I couldn't have written anything on anything. But what impressed me is the amount of love.

I've been organizing in Houston, Texas for a long time. And if you ask me to give you an estimate of what are the likelihood of getting 300 people out at 6 o'clock in the morning to unfold Quilt, I can give you pretty good odds on that. There's a zillion to 1 against.

HOST: You're going to have Bruce Reeves stand there, yelling nasty things at you.

RAY HILL: But there was no problem getting volunteers to set up last night. It's wonderful this morning. And to staff, the blanket to the quilt all day. It takes a lot of love to do that. And of course, we now have all of those people's names and telephone numbers, so we can call them and ask them to volunteer for everything.

HOST: Everything, yeah.

RAY HILL: Statistics sound better. It's about a third of the time, they'll respond. So there's a lot more hands to turn the wheel around here.

HOST: Yeah. We had our microphone down there.

RAY HILL: Yeah? You got some tapes, you got it cued up and all that?

HOST: Ready to roll.

RAY HILL: OK. Before you get that, I want you each of you out there-- yeah, you running around in your drawers-- I mean, you're not going to sleep in this suckers. I don't know why you've got them on at this late hour. Tomorrow, get up and put on some drawers and come down to the blanket.

I will actually be doing monitoring duties tomorrow evening during the last two hours from 6:00 until sundown. So--

HOST: Is your partner in crime--

RAY HILL: --yeah, if you can possibly make it, we will see you there tomorrow.

HOST: Sounds good. We're going to listen to Joe Watson. Then we're going to listen to some stuff we record down on the Quilt and then a program called Counted Not as Numbers from Pacific Vision out in Los Angeles, telling you about the national tour. So stay tuned. This is *After Hours* in KPFT Houston 90.1 FM.

JOE WATSON: *The Pride*, written and read by Joe Watson. "The cry to unite is in the air. Fear death and dying, even despair. But hopefully, determined, we will survive by keeping the flames of our faith alive. A cry to unite is in the air, singing praises of pride. A cry to unite is in the air, a time to celebrate, to love, to care.

Forever united, we must stand or divided, we will surely fall. Listen to the cry, rise up, stand tall. A cry to unite is in the air, singing praises of pride. The cry to unite is in the air, bonding of souls and hearts everywhere. Our dream to unite must come true. The courage to face the world as you. A cry to unite is in the air, singing praises of pride everywhere."

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MAN: I think, there's a very good turnout. Proud. Proud that I was a part of it. And I know that Jean was proud of us.

MAN: It was great.

INTERVIEWER: Really?

MAN: Yeah.

INTERVIEWER: What do you think of the Quilt all the time?

MAN: Ah, it's overwhelming.

WOMAN: Man, woman, or child, when someone has AIDS, that all of us are human beings. And we all have the same needs and the same love. And also to remember that they could try to understand, a little compassion, and also remember the families and the friends of the people that have died of AIDS.

Each one of those people have mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, grandparents. And they're like everyone else, and everyone needs love. And also, to have the courage to tell your parents. Our son told us. We're very proud of him that he did so. Just to come on down and it doesn't hurt to look. If you don't like it, you don't have to stay. But at least, give it a try and come and look.

WOMAN: I think it's wonderful. I think that I wish more people were here. And I can't wait until my daughter's panels incorporated into it. It's a very moving experience. It really shows that this thing is a lot bigger than a lot of people think that it is.

I wish that we could get more panels in it for women and children because I don't think that a lot of people know how many women and children have died of AIDS. It's gigantic, it's colorful, it's beautiful, and it's solemn.

MAN: Well, I stay off the second floor a lot because those are all people whom that I know and love and have died recently. It's pretty hazardous out here. There's some places where I go through areas, they need to put fences around because it's dangerous to my emotions. You can't believe how good it is to let those emotions come up and get out.

You feel clean. You feel so responsible. And when you come down here and you see how much love has gone in to why they do these things, by wives who didn't even know, by family, by friends, by lovers, by people who just kind of knew the guy as somebody at the end of the hall. There's a lot of love in this world, and you deserve all of it.

WOMAN: [SIGHNS] I was much sadder than I thought I would be, especially since Bruce is in the hospital.

MAN: A lot of emotions in one. At one time, you were happy and laughing. And another time, you were sad and crying. And it's just very emotional. It's just hard to describe looking at it. It just looks like a bunch of fabric on the floor. But to be here, it's-- you have to be here. I guess, I wonder what's in store for me.

MAN: And I'm just amazed at how moving it is, how huge it all is, and how it's just like such a waste. Such a waste of people's lives.

MAN: At the moment, I'm just sort of contemplating Troy's quilt and Troy's panel. That's all-- the Mardi Gras one there. January 31 is when it was.

MAN: I lost my lover two weeks ago, and it's been a difficult experience. And to come to the Houston Quilt showing is certainly an emotional tribute to so very many people-- to the mothers and the fathers, to the sons and the daughters, to the children. We're all sharing a very special time here.

And you can look around, and you see all of the hurt. And you see the happiness and the sharing and the caring. And I think, the thing that's the saddest is that so many people, who really should have the opportunity to share this, will probably not be the ones who will be sharing it.

But I think, the collective family of gay people and those who are close to them will be the ones who are probably impacted the most by this showing. And unfortunately, the apathetic many will not-- love and caring, compassion and understanding.

MAN: It is beautiful. It is absolutely mind boggling what is laying out. They have all the different lives that have come and gone. Very emotional. Very emotional. I see that the happy times of people's lives, the best time people saw of each other, what people thought of their friends, their loved ones, their family members.

Each one is a kind of just a summary in each person's own way of what they thought of that person. Will it be just a name spray painted on a piece of cloth or with all the bubbles and beads and glitter and all the other fancy things? I would definitely come. It's very, very, very moving.

The slight chance you'll get to see it-- unless you go to New Orleans or go to Washington. It's right here in your own backyard. It doesn't cost anything. It's time, if you've lost someone, to let go. This is the place to do it. I know a lot more of those names than anyone else for sure-- a lot of friends, a lot of clients I knew, a lot of people I didn't know, just I heard of them but that are great people-- people we'll all miss.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

LIZ WALTON: What you're listening to took place at dawn on October 11, 1987. As the sun rises majestically over the Capitol Building in Washington, DC, under the silhouetted spires of the Smithsonian Institute across the Capital Mall.

The inaugural unfolding of the largest community arts project in the world taking place, the unfolding of a huge quilt, four football fields in length, assembled from 3-foot by 6-foot patches from all across the United States. Slowly, you begin to realize that most traditional American quilts shouldn't make you cry. This one does.

WOMAN: Saw that quilt go down. And it was the dawn. And people are reading the names and the names, and the names of all those people that have died, and all the talent gone and the lives lost. And it simply became an overwhelming experience. It became a lot more than just my son.

ANNOUNCER: Richard Anderson. Gary Barnhill. David Calgaro. Bobby Campbell.

MAN: It was a very overwhelming, emotional experience, more than I had even anticipated that it would be. And part of that was because of the personal nature of the project to myself and having created several panels for people that I knew. The sense of accomplishment was wonderful in the sense of the power, in the sense of the drama of it. And it really did its job.

ANNOUNCER: Bruce Paris. David Hicks.

LIZ WALTON: Each panel of the Quilt displays the name of a person who has died from AIDS. As the quilt has unfolded, the names are read aloud. That's when you begin to understand that AIDS not only affects the lives of those who suffer from it, but the lives of their family, their friends, and their co-workers.

WOMAN: Norman Harmon-Krause. Tim Barbo. Richard Brower. Gary Kristoff Pelosi. Jim Randall. Ed Knight. Dennis Dunwoody.

MAN: The most important thing about the Quilt is it shows the humanity behind the statistics. And it shows the number of people who've been affected, not just the people who've died but the people who are making the Quilt.

LIZ WALTON: I'm Liz Walton. For the next half hour, you'll be hearing the stories of the NAMES Project, the people who are taking the AIDS Quilt on a national tour of the United States to 20 cities and crossing 12,000 miles to carry the memory of loved ones who have died from AIDS home again

[MUSIC - CYNDI LAUPER, "TRUE COLORS"]

(SINGING) You with the sad eyes. Don't be discouraged. Oh, I realize. It's hard to take courage in a world full of people. You can lose sight of it all. And the darkness inside you can make you feel so small. But I see your true colors shining through.

I see your true colors. That's why I love you. So don't be afraid to let them show. Your true colors. True colors are beautiful like a rainbow.

WOMAN: We had a good time making it. And it was fun to remember David. And he brought a lot of joy into our lives. And we think about him with great fondness. But it was important to do something we thought that was connected to a larger expression of loss in the country from AIDS.

(SINGING) You've taken all you can bear. You call me up because you know I'll be there. And I see your true colors shining through.

WOMAN: What I love about this pink fabric is it reminds me of Arturo's cheeks. They were so beautiful and rosy always.

(SINGING) Your true colors, true colors are beautiful like a rainbow.

MAN: There is a panel for a man by the name of Sean. And the image, the colors, everything on that panel, it just works, and it jumps off the fabric. And you sense who this person is. And there's a great amount of love that you can see that went into making the panel. And it's very moving, and it's hard to walk away from.

LIZ WALTON: The Quilt is a powerful display of the human toll taken by AIDS. In addition, it's a colorful, loving tribute to those who are currently battling the disease. Peter has AIDS. We were with him the first time he walked on the Quilt and stopped near the patch for his brother Cap.

PETER: It brings up a lot of sadness for me. It's the first real memorial of Cap that we have. And seeing it, it surprised me. I wasn't sure how I would react. But seeing it just brought up a lot of sadness for me. But being here, seeing this Quilt, it's just amazing.

Seeing on television and seeing photographs, it's not the same. But actually, walking through and seeing it, it makes me feel really good. It makes me know that we won't be forgotten.

LIZ WALTON: Actress and comedian Lily Tomlin was there also, standing on one of the walkways that crisscrossed the Quilt as she told us how she felt.

LILY TOMLIN: Well, what-- [SIGHHS] it's sort of overwhelming, just the positive quality of it, I think, because the fact that so many individuals put so much care and caring into making these squares and then to make each one is so-- what leaps out to you is that each one is so personal, you know.

I was driving over here, and I was thinking about the crosses at Arlington. And it's huge collective but anonymous quality of it and how profound it was. And this is so much more individual and personalized. And each one of these individuals is a living person to you. And there are little mementos and their shirts. And there are little symbols that reflected something sweet and dear about them to the people who knew them and loved them.

LIZ WALTON: I'm Liz Walton. You're listening to the stories of the people who work on the NAMES Project. Cleve Jones founded the NAMES Project as a grassroots organization last year. He's also tested positive to the AIDS virus. Cleve Jones continues to battle the disease alongside of his friends with an enormous commitment, a need to say something about this epidemic to the world. His reasons for doing it are clear.

CLEVE JONES: Some days, I can barely tolerate it. The worst days are days when I open up a package that's come in the mail and learn that another person that I knew died. In one month, I found out that everybody that lived in the same house with me in the early '70s in the Haight-Ashbury has died.

LIZ WALTON: Cleve Jones believes in challenging people. One year ago, Cleve stuck his neck out by telling people he was assembling a quilt to unfold at the National March on Washington in October of 1987. That was only eight months away from the day he made that announcement-- an impossible task for even the most experienced crew.

And Cleve depended on the help of anyone who had some free time. The people who volunteer for the NAMES Project are courageous, loving, hardworking people, most of whom work full-time jobs and volunteer around the Quilt in what used to be their free time.

[MUSIC - KIM CARNES, "IN THE CHILL OF NIGHT"]

KIM CARNES: (SINGING) Oh, every soul needs to have someone, needs to have someone hold his hand. And every hand needs to hold on to the hand of another, the hand of a friend. Oh, but it's all right, babe, 'cause I know how you feel deep in the night, babe.

When you feel the chill of the night, babe. Oh, when you turn out the light, babe. I'll hold you tight, babe if you will in the night, babe. in the chill of the night, babe.

LIZ WALTON: Many of the volunteers have never even met the people they are memorializing in cloth and stitches.

WOMAN: I love Jay, Spring something, and Phil someone, and Fred, and Thomas Bowman, I think. Nancy Love, Ronald Kaufman, I think. A lot of the panels I work on-- most of the panels I work on are for people that I've never known.

MAN: I started making a panel for a friend of mine that passed the test, July. And I started coming here in, I guess, the end of August. When we finally got it together, we sew a panel for it. And then another friend passed about a week before him. So there were two panels kind of in parallel we're making.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

WOMAN: I felt like I needed to do something. And this Quilt really appealed to me, and I can.

LIZ WALTON: And some people answer phones, type information about each patch into a master computer, and some write poems, letters, even songs.

[MUSIC - CATHY FINK, "NAMES"]

(SINGING) 2,170 names. It must be someone that you know. Woven together in a quilted frame, names the love ones won't let go. And I know that my name could be there. And I feel pain and fear. And as human-loving persons, do not make us all the same. We are counted not as numbers but as names.

LIZ WALTON: Cathy Fink of Maryland wrote and sing this song. It's her contribution to the national tour of the Quilt.

(SINGING) The grief for the lovers and the families. And I pray they'll meet again someday. But until that time, I'll carry the flame. As the numbers grow, we'll not forget their names. And I know that my name could be the. And I feel the pain and the fear. And as human-loving persons, do not make us all same. We are counted not as numbers but as names.

LIZ WALTON: For all of the volunteers giving service to the memory of those who have been taken by AIDS, no one comes away from the experience empty handed.

DAN SAURO: It's probably about a \$40 to \$50 hour a week. I had to kind of put a few limits on it because I reached a point of things getting a little bit out of balance-- because it's the kind of project that draws people in that way.

And it's very hard to put a limit on your work here because it's so important, and it's so valid and valuable. I've never really felt that way about any other job I've ever had.

LIZ WALTON: Dan Sauro left an executive position at CBS in New York City to tackle the job as media supervisor for the NAMES project.

DAN SAURO: The first time I came in, I sat down. And someone attempted to teach me how to sew. And it wasn't it. That didn't last very long. That was a half day's worth of effort. And then I began to talk to Cleve about my background in media.

And he was pleased to know that because he, of course, at that time, was seeking out other people to build this volunteer staff a little larger. Take some of the pressure off of Mike Smith, the general manager, and himself.

LIZ WALTON: Many of the volunteers on the AIDS Quilt are not spectacular personalities but ordinary, everyday heroes.

WOMAN: I'm a mother of three. And my three children are all up in their 20s, late 20s. So I just say, thank god, I have three healthy children, one healthy granddaughter, and a loving husband that understands what I'm doing.