

[MUSIC - GLORIA ESTEFAN, "ANYTHING FOR YOU"]

WOMAN: You can't catch it like so many people think you can catch it by shaking hands, hugging. You can't catch it like that. I mean these guys who are dying of AIDS they want you to hold and hug them, because they miss that, and they want some loving.

[MUSIC - GLORIA ESTEFAN, "ANYTHING FOR YOU"]

WOMAN: Some of the guy's very bitter. And they couldn't understand why I was helping him. I mean, I was a woman, a straight woman, and a Catholic woman, and he wanted to know why was I doing it. And I just put love comes first. And so I just told myself it's pretty hard to predict, [INAUDIBLE] because my family comes first. And I want to know if it ever happens to my family, will I be prepared?

LIZ FULTON: No one has ever prepared for AIDS. I'm Liz Fulton. You're listening to the stories of the people who work on the Names project. Scott Lago was working in the gourmet foods department at Neiman Marcus before Christmas. Today he's the National Production Manager for the largest community art project in the US.

SCOTT LAGO: I'm like the resident historian. If they have a question, Scott, do you remember that panel for a Little Girl See? Yes. Who made it? That was Rebecca, the 14-year-old girl who came in here. Oh yeah. Yeah, it has purple paint and it says little girl and then see in quotation marks. So I try to instill in all of the volunteers here that the panel we need to do everything that we possibly can to preserve the integrity of the panel, even if the person who made it was not very technically oriented or knew really the best technique to use to put that license plate on that panel, or whatever.

LIZ FULTON: AIDS has touched every walk of life, and those walks of life are graphically represented on this quilt.

SCOTT LAGO: There's one panel that has an entire scape, I don't know, sort of like a montage of the entire United States, and it has the Golden Gate Bridge over here, and it has the Washington Monument and the Pentagon over here, and then it depicts important events in the person's life from one end of the country to the other. It has a tree with branches and each branch has the name of a family member or loved one on it, and then it shows his cat, and his love of cooking, and his love of a piece of cross stitch that he made himself. They're very, very personal.

LIZ FULTON: The patches of the AIDS Quilt attached to an impersonal statistic, a name of a person who was loved by friends and family. In some cases real tokens of memories shared with friends and loved ones are attached to the quilt patches.

SCOTT LAGO: Oh Lord. We have had license plates, air conditioning vents, Barbie dolls, Teddy Bears, Teddy Bears, Teddy Bears, Teddy Bears. Let's see. All kinds of political pins and buttons and bumper stickers. Photographs, shoes, crystals, paint brushes. Gosh, and I'm not even thinking of articles of clothing, of course, personal effects, ashes. All kinds of things that you just-- amazed. And they're made out of so many different things. There's one that's made out of a three foot by 6 foot piece of leather. One huge piece of leather. There's one that's made out of a three foot by 6 foot piece of plastic.

LIZ FULTON: Sometimes funny, sometimes touching, sometimes irreverent, always though, always personal, these quilted memorials soften the cold statistics surrounding this epidemic. Viewing the patches brings home the impact, the personal toll this epidemic has had in our communities all across the United States.

SCOTT LAGO: There are farmers names with the list of their favorite cows, or a prize-winning goat raiser, and the ribbons from the fair that he won, and there's postal workers uniforms, and police badges, and Lions Club vests. And running club t-shirts, and medals, and medallions, and Boy Scout memorabilia, and anything that you could possibly use to identify someone as being from a particular part of the country or for being from a particular walk of life.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

LIZ FULTON: A huge quilt, eight football fields big, side by side, an enormous memorial made by those who remember their children, their lovers, family and friends. For an organization with a project of national scope, such as the AIDS Memorial Quilt, the Names project is still an organization in its infancy. Founded only last summer, the Names project has structured a 20 city tour of the United States on a shoestring budget. The donations have poured in from the simple, like cloth remnants and sewing supplies, to the miraculous.

SCOTT LAGO: Well, like 15 computers from Apple, two laser printers. I mean they're doing-- they're giving a far above and beyond anybody's expectations. Our wildest dreams were realized. The Flying Tigers flew the quilt to Washington and back. The Teamsters Union offered to drive it for us. The communications workers of America installed our phone system for free. The phone system itself was donated by a charity in Southern California that outgrew it.

LIZ FULTON: Easy to overlook is the fact that the Names project seeks to affect the AIDS crisis through the avenue of the arts. David is a director and writer currently writing the story of the quilt for the stage.

DAVID: Well, initially I was drawn to the project because of the strong commitment I saw that these people had, and what I discovered was that this was the largest community arts project in the world. People were sending panels in from all over the country, from all sectors of life, and it was the thing that really drew me to find out for myself what was being created here in San Francisco. Something worth seeing for yourself. You've never seen anything like this.

LIZ FULTON: The quilt is tied to tradition. Evident everywhere around the quilt is the love and camaraderie that surrounds an old fashioned quilting bee. Even how the quilt is unfolded speaks to ceremony and tradition.

DAVID: It's a sort of a synthesis of quilting tradition and dance and ceremony, as there's 32 names on in a square, and each a reader reads the 32 names off of that square as eight people unfold that square. The quilt is folded in a Lotus flower shape, and is opened four corners at a time, like the petals of a flower opening, and then lifted and rotated and laying into place.

Bart Caine. Pail Castro.

The squares are opened in a pattern that suggests the way they were sewn together or the stitches that were used to sew them together. And then the last square is a blank square, basically, that recalls the quilting tradition of a signature sash. Signature sash was the area on a friendship quilt that was the symbol that of the unity that brought people together to make the quilt in the first place. And so we've incorporated that tradition in a blank square, in which people can come to the quilt and write their thoughts or feelings, or the name of a loved one, or their name. I was here to witness this. And to me, that's the most moving part of the entire quilt, is to see that immediacy and the emotion that's contained in that 24 foot square.

LIZ FULTON: Wade Walker works on the production management team in the Names Project storefront office in San Francisco. Like all the volunteers who work on the quilt, Wade is never far from a side of his job that he hadn't counted on when he first came to the Names Project.

WADE WALKER: This man and woman came in, and they were bringing in their panel. And they've been a husband and wife, and the panels is for their only son, and he died when he was 19. And he died in '84. And he was only a year older than my son. And it was so nice to see that, they had grown from the experience. And reading a letter that came with the panels, that they saw something in their soul that they never would have had the chance to see before. They actually saw him grow from the experience, despite the fact that he was dying. And it wasn't hard for them to hand the panel over, because it was their letting go and putting it to rest of their only son, and it was harder for me to accept the panel from them, because here I'm taking the last son, the only son, it was so interesting. But the letter itself was so moving, that they have learned so much from their son dying, and they never learned before for them.

LIZ FULTON: The quilt is now over 4,000 panels large. For every panel of the AIDS Quilt there are eight more people who have died. When the quilt returns to Washington DC this coming October, it will cover the entire length of the Capitol mall.

WADE WALKER: 35,000 deaths is such a hard concept to grasp for anyone. But I don't know anybody who has seen the panels, seen the display, and hasn't been moved by them. And you realize that something needs to be done, because it's a great loss.

[MUSIC - DIONNE WARWICK FEAT. ELTON JOHN, GLADYS KNIGHT & STEVIE WONDER, "THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR"]

WADE WALKER: Just sometimes you'll see a panel that you've never noticed before. And you read what it says on it. There's a panel that was for a person who died the day before his 23rd birthday. And there's a poem on it that has kind of stuck with me, and it was what if I had all the time in the world. What would I do with it? Bottle it like perfume? And if I did have all the time in the world, what would I ask of it? To build me a dream. And that poem has stuck in my head since I first saw that panel three months ago. But it always keeps coming to mind, because it mimics a lot of the things that I think. Because I am not even 22 yet. And the same thing is going through my mind, you know, what if I had the time in the world. What would I do with it?

[MUSIC - DIONNE WARWICK FEAT. ELTON JOHN, GLADYS KNIGHT & STEVIE WONDER, "THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR"]

LIZ FULTON: Working on a National AIDS Memorial isn't just sadness and grief.

WADE WALKER: I expected this to be a very downbeat place. Kind of like a mortuary. And it's actually the opposite, there's laughter, there's happy, and I've met a lot of people here who I respect. I never thought I ever could. It's been interesting just to meet the people that are here.

LIZ FULTON: There are hundreds of volunteers who feel exactly like Wade. They find the Names Project to be an appropriate, compassionate response to the AIDS epidemic.

WADE WALKER: A lot of people wonder, how can you do it? Isn't it hard? Isn't it you know depressing? I'm not going to say that there aren't times that it's difficult, and there aren't times that we cry here, we do. But there's a lot of joy in this place, too. There's a lot of hope in people coming together and working together at working through that grief. We've all got that common thread, if you'll pardon the expression, of having lost someone.

[MUSIC - DIONNE WARWICK FEAT. ELTON JOHN, GLADYS KNIGHT & STEVIE WONDER, "THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR"]

LIZ FULTON: The Names Project and the National AIDS Memorial Quilt is a passionate act of public caring. The viewing of the quilt is a profoundly moving experience. It's been compared by many to the intensely personal moment of finding a loved one's name on the black granite wall of the Vietnam Memorial in Washington. Some will know at least one of the names lovingly stitched into this great quilt, and even those who do not can share in the collective grief that binds all in our community, whether they're Black or white, men or women, gay or straight.

WADE WALKER: It's a job that is very meaningful for me, and it's the most important job that I've ever had, and at the same time I would be so happy to put myself out of the job by seeing the end of all of this. The end of the epidemic and the end of the need for the quilt.

LIZ FULTON: The AIDS Quilt is currently on a 20 city tour of the United States. Any money raised while the quilt is on tour will go directly to support agencies doing direct service with AIDS patients in the cities where it will visit. If you need more information, just call us here at radio station. This program is dedicated to all those who are currently battling with AIDS. Our hearts are with you.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

LIZ FULTON: This program was written by Danny Lemos, produced by Scott Swenson, executive producer Patricia Bock. It has all been made available to this station through Pacific Vision. I'm Liz Fulton.

ANNOUNCER: When you see the quilt you understand how it began with one name sewn with love, and grew to thousands of names, stitched with memories, surrounded by favorite things. Each name is a proud inscription, but all of them together make a national monument to those who died of AIDS. A monument that says remember me. Experience the Quilt at the George R. Brown Convention Center tomorrow beginning at 9 o'clock in the morning until dusk. We'll see you there.

DEBORAH BELL: Hi, I'm Deborah Bell.

BRUCE REEVES: And I'm Bruce Reeves.

DEBORAH BELL: I'm a dyke.

BRUCE REEVES: And I'm a faggot.

BOTH: And we're the co-chairs of Lesbian, Gay Pride Week 1988.

DEBORAH BELL: Pride Week is June 17 to the 26th this year, and we would like to encourage everyone to come out and be rightfully proud.

BRUCE REEVES: That's right. The parade is Sunday June 26th, 3 PM, and will run from Westheimer at Woodhead to Montrose. Immediately following the parade will be Gay Fest across the street from Kroger's. We need everyone to come out and be a part of the festivities.

DEBORAH BELL: Pride Week is much more than a group of individuals parading down the street planned by an elitist few.

BRUCE REEVES: It is an opportunity to get involved and show the world that we are a happy, loving people, that we are united in our fight for civil rights.

DEBORAH BELL: We are thankfully unique and rightfully proud to be a gay and lesbian people.

BRUCE REEVES: For more information on Lesbian Gay Pride Week.

DEBORAH BELL: Call 961-2905.

BRUCE REEVES: Come out of your closets.

DEBORAH BELL: Come out into the streets.

BOTH: And show the world you are rightfully proud in 1988.

BRIAN KEEVER: Good morning, Houston, Montrose, and the world. This is Brian Keever with After Hours News. Well, it's here. Remember last week I told you we were helping out with the Names Project? Well, I spent most of the last 48 hours up because we did the opening to Names Project Houston the George R. Brown Convention Center, and let me tell you, I expect to see everyone down here this coming Sunday. After you hear us, you get up and you go down to the George R. Brown the best possible thing that's happened to Houston, Texas in as many years as I can remember. And Buddy Johnson was down there with me covering it, has been absolutely phenomenal.

BUDDY I've been phenomenal, or the quilt's phenomenal?

JOHNSON:

BRIAN KEEVER: I say the quilt's phenomenal. You're pretty good too, but.

BUDDY Don't tell everybody that. But what would you say to people maybe that haven't been down here that should

JOHNSON: come see it? Should they come down and see the quilt? How would you-- if you look out the window. What do you see?

BRIAN KEEVER: OK, I'll look out the window, and I see just people after people after people. And they're down there, and they're showing-- and they're expressing themselves. This is the first time a lot of Houstonians, and I'm not just talking from the gay community, I'm talking a lot of Houstonians, this is their first chance to be able to say goodbye to someone, or to deal with the fact that they knew someone who passed away from AIDS. This is not just a gay disease anymore. There's panels down there from babies, from hemophiliacs, drug abusers, from young girls, young boys, old men, it doesn't matter. AIDS has no discrimination policy at all. None. But this center, it's red, white, and blue. That's America. And this panel is us. You've got to come down and see it. It'll make you feel better than you've ever felt in your entire life.

BUDDY We understand from Ray Hill standing on the quilt that they raided Mary's last night.

JOHNSON:

BRIAN KEEVER: Well, if they did, I just found out about it.

BUDDY So that'll be the big news next week.

JOHNSON:

BRIAN KEEVER: Yeah, I'm going to get a firsthand report on that, especially with all of our wonderful new horses on Westheimer. Welcome back to Yeehaw Texas.

BUDDY OK so the big news this weekend then is the quilt at the George R. Brown Convention Center opening up on

JOHNSON: Sunday morning. This morning beginning at--

BRIAN KEEVER: It begins at 9:00 AM. It closes down right at dark. And we will have a closing ceremony.

BUDDY And that's going to be conducted by the.

JOHNSON:

BRIAN KEEVER: CWA coalition of Houston.

BUDDY Also don't forget the balloon release, because if we do the guy out answering the phones in the lobby is going to come in here and kick our you know what.

BRIAN KEEVER: That's right. Roger, we didn't forget about you. There's a balloon release Sunday afternoon at 2:00 PM outside of the George R. Brown. Come rain or shine, we're going to be releasing balloons and the mothers, since it is Mother's Day 1988, the mothers who have had sons and daughters pass away from AIDS are going to be having a ceremony. A balloon release at 2:00 PM Sunday afternoon in front of the George R. Brown.

BUDDY Before we get out of the news, Brian, tell me what is Brian Keever feel and see on the floor of the convention

JOHNSON: center today? Just from your involvement in the march and prior loss of Mark and our loss of not only Mark but other people. What do you what do you see? Do you see gloom and doom or do you see hope and glory?

BRIAN KEEVER: OK, if anyone's ever been to Washington DC, there was a wall. It's called Vietnam Wall. This is our Vietnam wall laying down here on the George R. Brown floor. I've got more than I wanted to think about friends. They're laying down there. They're really upstairs looking at us, probably laughing, but we've got some wonderful people. The United States of America are losing so many of the talented and creative people in this country, and Brian Keever is looking at a lot of creative people down there.

Houston are finally getting it together. We're the second largest display of the quilt in the nation. During the opening ceremonies a couple of people from San Francisco who are the bosses here walked up to me and said, Brian, this is the most together, this is the most orchestrated, and this is the best display we have seen to date, which tells a lot for the gay and lesbian community of Houston, Texas. It's about time we got it together. This is Brian Keever, I'm reporting from the George R. Brown Convention Center in downtown Houston, with the Names Project Houston.

We've got a new person coming up to you next. You probably saw him. He's a twit too. We'd like to welcome this week Bobby Miller to our staff. He's going to be doing your sports for you. If anyone goes to the Dianas or to Miss Camp America, you've seen him. He's the one that wears almost nothing. But.

BUDDY The one that wears almost nothing?

JOHNSON:

BOBBY MILLER: Well, I try to wear more than that.

BUDDY Welcome to Bobby Miller.

JOHNSON:

BOBBY MILLER: Well, thank you, I'm really glad to join KPFT in the After Hours. Hopefully I can bring you some good sports information.

BRIAN KEEVER: Bobby's replacing Mark Schmidt as our new sports director and before we get into the sports, you were working down at the convention center yesterday morning doing unfolding, or what were you doing down there?

BOBBY MILLER: I was working in the morning time. I worked as an escort. I escorted the readers from the front door as they were coming in. I was taking them over two sign in and get the names that they were going to be reading. I helped Carolyn Farve over and let her-- we had a nice chat on the way over, and Vince Ryan, Eleanor Tinsley, a lot of the dignitaries we have to help over. And then in the afternoon I greeted the general public as they came in.

BRIAN KEEVER: Bobby, how can you describe what's on the floor of the George R. Brown Convention Center this weekend?

BOBBY MILLER: It's really hard to really put into words. It's more of a feeling. Everyone here, you kind of have a feeling of unity. I was just personally was walking through the Houston panels upstairs, and I noticed someone that I hadn't even known who had passed away. And it was like, I just stood there for a moment and I was just thinking, you know I'm a young person. I shouldn't see all these people my age that have died. When you get older, you come to expect your friends to pass away. I'm a young person, and it's something is very, very hard to deal with.

BRIAN KEEVER: On a lighter note you're going to be joining us as sports director, and you got some sports news for us?

BOBBY MILLER: Yeah, I have a few things here. What I would like to do is every week just give you a little bit of information on what's happening in gay sports in Houston, Texas. First of all, I'd like to tell you about the Free Wheelers Bicycle Club. They're going to be planning a short ride later on today. They're going to meet at the Potpie Restaurant at 1525 Westheimer, that's down on lower Westheimer. They'll be meeting there about 10:00 AM. So if you are-- any of you after hours people feel like getting up early and having a little exercise in the morning, they're going to take a little short tour around Montrose and Memorial Park for a couple of hours. And next Sunday they're going to take a little bit longer ride around Armand Bayou, and it'll probably be about a 30 mile ride. If you want any more information on these bicycle rides, you can contact the Potpie Restaurant and they'd be happy to give you some information.

Next the 1988 season of the Montrose Softball League is well underway. Last Sunday the Montrose Mine defeated the Galleon and then they went on to defeat Mothers and Mothers, after having that little bit of a hurt, came back and they decided to romp on the Montrose Voice, which is our publishing rival. I was kind of glad to see that from Twit we're always happy to see the Montrose Voice get romped on.

And there's a new recreational league in the Montrose Softball League that anyone that wants to play softball, if you don't want to play in a real competitive way, you can always come and the recreational league has a couple of teams that you can come and play on. One of my favorites, Miss Camp America, which is one of my organizations that I'm a little bit active in, they played last week and an exhibition game against the Fitness Exchange and those poor girls in this camp though, they went down in a stream of rhinestones and glitter, but I told them they need to stop wearing those glamour length nails, and wear those active length Lee Press Ons, because those are a little bit easier to throw that softball with.

And if you would like to come out and watch the Montrose Softball League, if you don't feel like playing, they play every Sunday at Tim Herman Field. That's over in Memorial. They start at 3:30 in the afternoon, it usually goes till 7:00 or 8 o'clock at night. So you should go out and cheer your favorite team on.

Next let's see what else is happening in sports? There's the Billiards League which plays on Tuesday. It's the Houston's Men's Billiards League. Last week the 6:11 Prime moved back into first place after beating EJ's, and they went down to second in the Outpost Rebels are now in third in the billiards league.

Something if you don't feel like playing billiards, you could go bowling. Monday and Thursday night we have some gay bowling leagues at Stadium Lanes. The summer seasons of the gay bowling league have all started up. They started around 8:45 on Monday and Thursday. They're always looking for people to substitute on teams. So if you'd like to go out and substitute on a team, you're more than welcome to. Go out to Stadium Lanes down on South Main.

You have all this softball and the biking and the bowling and the billiards all happening around Montrose. I'm sure everyone can find a gay sport to take up, and even if you don't want to participate, it's always nice to go out and watch, and it's also a great social outlet. That's about it for this weekend, gay sports. And this is Bobby Miller, and I'll be happy to be coming to you, and I say you need to get up, you need to get out, and you need to get involved. So until next time. Now here.

ADRIAN: Hi, this is Adrian at the National Bar of Texas, Maris, naturally, and you're listening to After Hours on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM.

NANNY: Andrew, why do you have the covers over your head? Are you listening to your Mongolian Lesson?

ANDREW: No.

NANNY: You have to be ready for our trip to Uland Bator this summer.

ANDREW: It's Monday.

NANNY: It's after midnight. You're not doing it again, are you?

ANDREW: I'm not listening to We the People on KPFT.

NANNY: Every Monday at midnight you don't listen to We the People. I know, I could trust you anywhere.

BRIAN KEEVER: That's great.

BUDDY JOHNSON: That's crazy Otis. Crazy Otis. Crazy Otis is with a new program called We the People, and God knows what's going to happen.

WOMAN: It is crazy.

MAN: Also Adrian called from Mary's. You just heard Adrian. You're listening to After Hours, KPFT Houston, to tell us that Mary's was not raided. Of course Ray Hill was in earlier live in color to tell us that was not really what happened. The news, though, was recorded on at the Convention Center this afternoon. So Brian and Bobby are both home asleep, probably not together.

WOMAN: Hopefully. We'd better straighten that out. Anyway, Clay, you with us?

CLAY: Yes, yes. You got some news and some views from what's going on in the community?

MAN: A few.

CLAY: What's going on? Well, like everyone knows, the Names Project Houston's George R. Brown tomorrow or later today from 9:00 until 8:22, and closing ceremonies will be out front on the green at 8:22. Also tomorrow at 2:00 PM there'll be a balloon release outside the George R. Brown, on the green. Mothers of AIDS victims will be reading names while the band plays. Monday at 8:00 PM gay fathers will be meeting at Dignity Center. Next Saturday May 14 at 8 Heartsongs going to be in concert at the First Unitarian Church over on Fannin.

Next Sunday May 15th, Church of the Rock is going to be having an ice cream social after services. All are invited. May the 15th at 6:00 PM Dignity Center Lesbian and Gay Pride Week committee meeting. Monday the 16th, What's it Worth Auction at Heaven. For more information, call 861-6495. Saturday May 21 civil disobedience training from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM at Dignity Center. It's nonviolent, civil disobedience training, June 1. Is civil disobedience at the British consulate. It's a protest of Clause 29 in England. Call Bruce at 961-2905 for more information.

Sunday June 5th, Pride Week committee meeting at Dignity Center at 6:00 PM. Saturday, June 11, 9:30 PM, Lynn Lavener is going to be in concert at Rumor's in Dallas. Finally Soul Survivor is going to be having a special showing on Friday the 13 at Kindred Spirits. For more information, give him a call.

MAN: Thanks Clay. And you can always call the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard. At 529-4211 to find out what's going on in the community right, Terry?

TERRY: Right.

CLAY: So the quilt's here.

TERRY: The quilt is wonderful.

MAN: We've got a couple of poems for you. One written by Ron Sparks from the AIDS Foundation in Houston, and another one written by a cute little man sitting in there waiting to read it, I think, by the name of Dennis. Clay's other half, right?

TERRY: Right.

MAN: You know what did you see the square where you sign at the end of the thing? Did you write anything in there yet?

TERRY: Not yet.

MAN: I didn't this morning because I was in tears after we read our names, and then everybody ran up to me, oh, it's OK, it's OK, I said listen, honey, I'm not crying for all these people. I'm crying for all the people that aren't here.

TERRY: Right, right.

MAN: All the kids that are at home afraid, all the people that are on their jobs afraid, all the people that have died because of violence and ignorance to gay and lesbian people. So I finally went back this afternoon and I wrote my little message on the quilt, and it says something like, to all of you that have died to make this quilt possible, may your death bring the gay and lesbian community of the future together as strong and as beautiful as this quilt is that we see today before us, or something like that. And that's kind of what I'd like to see the quilt do. The Quilt's here in Houston, and you need to go see it. It's the George R. Brown Convention Center, and as promised, here's brother Ron Sparks.

RON SPARKS: Names, written and read by Ron Sparks. They come and they go. I've seen hundreds upon hundreds in the past year and a half come and go. Some became very close friends, and some never I met, but I still felt I knew them.

MAN: Number two.

RON SPARKS: Names, written and read by Ron Sparks I come and they go. I've seen hundreds upon hundreds the past year and a half come and go. Some became very close friends and some I never met, but still I felt I knew them. Names, they come and they go. Douglas, Gabriel, Alan, Shannon, Joel, Michael, Jim, Bill, Philip, Glenn, Kenneth, John, Chuck, Coleman, Mark, Don, Carolyn, Paul, Lane, Fred, Bruce, Sunny, Ron, Daniel, Thomas, Matthew, Antonio, Rick, David, Cheryl, Benjamin, Perry, Renee, Arthur, Patrick, Ricky, Tony, Randy, Robert. These names are gone, but more are still to come. Names may come and they go. I've watched too many names go, as we all have. One day this dreaded virus will leave us alone, and we'll have to see names go until that time. But my names will be here for eternity. Names, they come and they stay in our hearts and memories.

MAN: Ron's giving us a dirty look because we made him start over.

TERRY: Poor Ron.

CLAY: I know. Dennis, you got something for us?

DENNIS: Yeah buddy I do, but this is just my impression of today. Anything that we say today or right will always, always be different tomorrow because there's so many more people added to the list every day. And that's the sad thing about it. So, first day of the quilt. The names and the tears are for them and us, helping to support our fears. As we walk by and see we wonder who will be next. Will it be you or will it be me? We have a large community, fourth in the nation.

Where were you today? Where was your support? Where was your donation? One more day and the quilt will be gone. I hope we will keep together and be as one, and not be left with just a poem or a song. Today the love and the warmth we felt will last the rest of my life. Please come and experience the Quilt. It's not passing, and will never melt. If you miss it, and I hope not, find someone who was there. Feel the love. For it was not for aught.

As a volunteer I asked the view, don't be non supportive. AIDS is real and not a joke. It could come and visit your home too.

[MUSIC - SANDI PATTY, "LOVE IN ANY LANGUAGE"]

MAN: Mm, that's a love to [INAUDIBLE]

TERRY: A lot of love.

MAN: Was wonderful. Just absolutely wonderful. Who's that, Terry?

TERRY: That's Sandi Patty.

MAN: Oh, wonderful.

TERRY: Love in any language. There was a lot of language going on today.

MAN: Certainly was.

CLAY: Someone called and said the quilt wasn't big enough?

TERRY: Yeah, they said it should be as big as Texas.

CLAY: Is that somebody's just trying to be nasty, or did they say, or--

TERRY: He was just trying to be nasty.

CLAY: Oh well. There's people that hate us, go down and look at it. You want to see all the queers that have died going down and take a gander at it, I dare you. If you're man enough, go down there and take a look at it, baby.

TERRY: I don't think anyone's man enough.

MAN: Oh, it's there. If you were at the quilt today and saw it, give us a call at 526-4000. We've got just about 12 minutes left. Well, really about seven minutes. And we want to hear from you and hear what you thought about the quilt. The show, we had talked a lot because we didn't want it to be a real bummer, and I was afraid that it would be, but the quilt's not a bummer.

TERRY: It's not.

MAN: The quilt is so full of love. And life. And energy. And Mr. and Ms. Ewing's Rainhill told me a few minutes ago that Miss Ewings came up after she had read, and she said, I just want to thank you for allowing us to participate. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of this. And Ray told her the same thing we told her, that I wish every mom and dad were like that.

TERRY: Right, there--

MAN: Across this wonderful land that we live in. We keep saying every week, come out, come out, come out, come out. You can stay there and hide and continue to live a lie, if that's what you want to do. It's not what I want to do, baby.

TERRY: Come out and celebrate.

MAN: I want to be free.

CLAY: That's all right.

MAN: And I don't care who knows it. My lover is going to be doing a balloon release tomorrow. I have known that man for almost five years, and I've never seen him put so much energy and work, and these two guys sitting in here are going to be up at 6:30 in the morning.

TERRY: Right, back down there.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

CLAY: We'll be getting out the [INAUDIBLE].

TERRY: They'll be at your house.

CLAY: We have to be there at 6:30 to start blowing up balloons. So if anybody wants to come out and help blow up balloons. Come on out.

MAN: You're only going.

TERRY: Go over to Buddy's house about-- when are you guys going to be there? 6:30?

MAN: Don't come to Buddy's.

CLAY: Meet us on the green about seven.

MAN: Don't come to Buddy's house unless you're about 5' 8".

TERRY: With a hairy chest. We know. We know, we know.

MAN: Hey buddy.

BUDDY: Thank you so much.

MAN: You're welcome.

BUDDY: I'm so tired and I wouldn't know what to do with a hairy chest if one fell right on top of me. Well, you have to lay there to sleep. Anyway 526-4000. Didn't anybody out there see the quilt? Or is everybody just too busy having a party to get involved with what's going on?

TERRY: That quilt it was just something else, especially my past boss, just passed away not more than about a week and a half ago. And they had his quilt there already, and it was really neat because he was in pest control, and there was a big old cockroach on this quilt. And I couldn't help but smile.

BUDDY: That Jerry?

TERRY: Yeah, Jerry Wine. Knowing that Jerry Wine. It was just it was just really neat.

BUDDY: Someone called and hung up. Is probably the guy wanting us all to die.

TERRY: Yeah.

CLAY: Well, the thing I need to say about it is, Sunday afternoons, there are a lot of people's time to go to their beer busts and things. I think you can be an hour late for your beer bust, or your liquor bust, just to come out there because I think you'll get a lot more feeling, a lot more love, a lot more hugs than spending \$2 to drink yourself silly. No, I'm not one to talk about drinking but.

MAN: There are no gay and lesbian people up listening to us. We're just talking to ourselves.

TERRY: I know somebody has to be up. Come on.

MAN: Well, we're all volunteers, and my volunteer time is just about to run out. Marathons just around the corner. And if we don't get a lot of financial support for this program, I for one am going to probably start staying at home on Sunday. That probably would suit a lot of you just fine, but you know. I'm really tired, Terry.

TERRY: But I don't think we're going to go off.

BUDDY: We're not going to go.

TERRY: We're not going to go off. We're going to get the support.

BUDDY: A lot of young people listening that maybe can't call in a pledge. And there are a lot of good people out there listening that sometimes just don't want to call in, but someone does want to call in. Who was that?

TERRY: Hello?

CALLER: Hello.

BUDDY: Hello.

CALLER: Hello.

BUDDY: Yes.

CALLER: Buddy?

BUDDY: Yes. If they bring proof tomorrow to Mary's that they've been to the quilt get a first cocktail. It's on Mary's.

TERRY: Oh, how wonderful.

BUDDY: Adrienne, how are you.

CALLER: I'm fine.

BUDDY: They didn't tell me who was on the phone.

CALLER: Yes, they need me and pickles were listening to your program.

BUDDY: So if you go to the quilt tomorrow, the first cocktail is free.

CALLER: Yeah, it's from us.

BUDDY: And what do they have to show they were there?

CALLER: Anything, a button.

TERRY: A button.

BUDDY: Oh how wonderful. Listen, thank you for your support. See, we thought that the bar was raided. That's what we heard this morning.

CALLER: No, it wasn't. The story was a little twisted. But it wasn't raided. You'll find out. It'll be around by, well, it's already around, but I ain't saying. You didn't hear it from me. OK.

BUDDY: The whole world deserted, baby.

CALLER: Oh no.

BUDDY: Thanks for calling.

CALLER: OK, bye.

TERRY: Bye-bye.

BUDDY: Now you see there? Adrian's up listening. But there are no other gays and lesbians. They're all having a party. Everybody's too busy to take the time to call. And that's OK. Gay people continue to die because of ignorance, and I'm not going to get on that soapbox, because I'm tired. And if I start yelling and screaming we may be here till 6 o'clock in the morning.

TERRY: Don't let him yell and scream, guys. Call in.

BUDDY: I'm just tired, because how many gay people have died in churches, in CCR churches, and other churches, trying to pray, and all of the churches were bombed. How many gay people have been beaten to death? And how many gay people have committed suicide? I had a dear friend in Nebraska that killed himself because his job, his employer found out, then his family found out, and nobody wanted anything to do with him, so he just killed himself.

That's one of the reasons I cried at the quilt today, not for the people that have died from AIDS, because that number in our community is almost nothing compared to what people die from in automobile accidents and cancer, and but when you think about the people that have died because of ignorance and gay violence and women-- and it's really kind of scary. And what's even scarier it's just like Dennis wrote in his poem, that the community just sits on their butt and nobody cares. There are just a handful of us trying to put a Pride Week celebration on. And the rest of them are all waiting on the floats to come by.

TERRY: So they can celebrate.

BUDDY: Yeah. And you know I suggested that we didn't even-- we shouldn't even have a parade this year. That's exactly how I feel.

CLAY: And the people who sat on their butts are the first ones to complain about it.

BUDDY: Yeah they'll say, well, we got to have a parade. Well, come down. I talked to a guy tonight at Kroger complaining about the quilt. I said, have you been down to see it? No. Have you been volunteered to do anything? No. I said, well, Mary, don't even complain to me, baby, please. When you get something to bitch about, when you get out and get involved, then you can complain. And it's like, Ray Hill has said time and time and time again, get involved, get involved, do something. Don't just sit there and complain.

TERRY: Right. Get involved.

CLAY: I was lucky. My job, I'm their token gay, so they let me off this weekend because they knew how dedicated I was to this, and I appreciate them doing that. But I tell you, I'm glad I did. I feel better.

BUDDY: We were talking about how somebody is on the phone with Terry. If it running sparse, tell him to hang out. Now I'm giving Ron a hard time. We were talking about violence and things and jobs. And it's not easy to come out like that. It certainly isn't. But once you do, you just feel so good. So very, very good. And we don't know-- what's it going to take to get them all out? What's it going to take, Ron?

RON: It's just like if you don't vote, you can't complain. How the village runs the same way in the gay community. You've got to get off your butt and do something.

BUDDY: That's it. So you enjoyed the quilt today, right?

RON: Very much. You were there. You saw me.

BUDDY: You're going to be back tomorrow?

RON: I used so much [INAUDIBLE] I think the stock went up.

BUDDY: Well, listen, thanks for calling.

RON: OK, thank you, Buddy.

BUDDY: Sure. If you're listening, give us a call. We got about two or three minutes left and I know there's somebody out there other than Ron and Ray Hill and Jack Berlinski was just in here. Jack was putting together a mailing. You guys were out there while we were listening to the tape for Pride Week. They're just a handful of dedicated people that are keeping this community running, and we're tired. I'll be the first to tell you, I'm tired. And somebody said, don't get on there and tell them. Why not? It's the truth.

You know, Vince Ryan, our Councilman for district C, came up to me this morning after he read his names and he said, Buddy, Buddy, Buddy. I said, yes sir? And he said, how can I find the names that I just read? So I took them down and we handed the panels, and he was so moved by what happened, and Vince Ryan told us on this program, back right after the election, that if things didn't go our way that we needed to go down to City Hall and tell them we don't like it.

TERRY: Right.

BUDDY: He said, you need somebody to pound on the table for you. And Councilman Ryan's going to do that for us. And then he said if that doesn't work, we'll fill up the council chambers. And I said, you know what? You'll be down here all by yourself, because these people don't care. They're still under the impression that they don't count and that they're trash and that they're garbage and that they're not worthy of it. And they're not going to come out and support it. Why stick your neck out?

So you've got people down there, especially in places like City Hall, that want to help us. But I can guarantee you one thing. All the folks that are waiting for us to die, and all the people want the quilt up to be as big as Texas, it's almost that big already, baby, whoever called. And so if you're such a man, go down to the George R. Brown Convention center and take a look at that quilt. I'll see you there tomorrow afternoon.

It's going to be a balloon release at 2 o'clock. The Montrose Symphony Band and it's called something else now. Isn't it the Lone Star?

TERRY: Lone Star.

BUDDY: The Lone Star Symphony Band, they're going to play about 2 o'clock. And they're going to have Texas mothers read the names of AIDS people that we've lost in the Houston area, Texas area. And 3,000 plus balloons go up, so it should be very beautiful. My baby's real involved in that, and I hope it's a beautiful day for him. And also the quilt will be open from 9:00 until 8:20, about dusk. At dusk the closing ceremonies will be conducted by the PWA coalition, and of course-- what was I going to say? The quilt will wrap up and go away. So if you don't see it tomorrow, don't complain to me.

TERRY: Don't start crying.

BUDDY: You know, please go down and see the quilt, right?

TERRY: Everybody go.

BUDDY: Oh, listen, it's time for us to go. And it's been a wonderful morning. Everybody is a little tired. I know I am. Michael Davis getting ready to do Step Child 213 for you. So stay tuned for that. Support us during the marathon. If you want more information about what's going on in the gay and lesbian community, call the switchboard at 529-3211 or write us KPFT After Hours. 419 Lovett, right here in the Montrose 77006. You can call the After Hours hotline if you're interested in working with the show at area code 713-529-4636. Until next week.

TERRY: Everybody have a good Mother's Day.

BUDDY: Yeah, and we'll see you.

TERRY: I just got to say one more time, go down and see the quilt. Please.

BUDDY: We'll see you at the quilt. Bye.

TERRY: Bye.

SPEAKER: 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. 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]

And once they realize that we are indeed their children, and we are indeed everywhere, every myth, every lie, every innuendo will be destroyed once and for all. And once you do, you will feel so much better. I asked people all over this country to do one thing. Come out. Come out, America. Come out.

[MUSIC PLAYING]