

# The NAMES Project

". . .When someone dies you clean out their closets and apartments and disperse everything they owned until there is nothing left but the memories. These panels are physical statements that the people were here. They represent the memories."

-- Debra Resnick, NAMES Project National Tour Staff

Dear Friend:

We started the NAMES Project to keep the memories alive -- memories of sons and daughters, wives and husbands, mothers and fathers, friends and lovers, infants and children -- memories of individual, irreplaceable people who have died of AIDS.

We started the NAMES Project to keep the hope alive -- hope that across our nation compassion and caring will replace fear and neglect, hope that thousands more precious lives will not be lost before a cure is found.

And now we invite you to share a remarkable nationwide journey -- as we take the NAMES Project Quilt to 20 cities to bring the memories and the hope to millions of Americans.

Maybe you've seen news stories about the NAMES Project Quilt. I've enclosed one of them, the feature article from the October 12, 1987 People Magazine.

It tells how the Quilt began -- and how families, friends and lovers of people lost to AIDS have banded together in homes and workplaces across America to create its more than 3,500 memorial panels.

Why a quilt?

**Quilts are part of the fabric of American life -- our own folk art form that has brought people together for generations.**

**Quilts, like people, are unique.** A quilt tells a story -- of newlyweds, of babies born, of warmth and companionship on cold nights, of comfort in illness.



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