ALVIN AILEY

1931-1989



Dancer & Choreographer

Alvin Ailey was an American Dancer and choreographer renowned for founding the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater (AAADT) and its affiliated Ailey School. He was born in rural Texas, and his experience growing up as a young black man in the segregated South influenced his later work—especially *Revelations*.[1] Ailey moved to Los Angeles and studied under Lester Horton, who was one of the first U.S. choreographers to insist on integrating his company. After Horton died unexpectedly in 1953, Ailey took over and got his first experience leading a studio.[2] Only a year later he moved to New York, and he returned to leadership by founding his own dance studio in 1958. His students at the AAADT included Judith Jamison and George Faison—who would become the first African-American to win a Best Choreography Tony (for 1975's *The Wiz*).[4] Ailey was gay but remained publicly closeted throughout his life. The National Museum of African American History and Culture notes that he often used art as an outlet and that his ballets "exhibited imagery reminiscent with male and female homosexuality."[4] He died of complications stemming from AIDS on December 1, 1989. Twenty-five years later, he was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom—the nation's highest civilian honor—by President Barack Obama.[5]

1 Kayla Stewart, "How Alvin Ailey's 'Revelations' Has Helped Me Find My Way Back to Texas," Texas Monthly, July 23, 2020, https://www.texasmonthly.com/arts-entertainment/alvin-ailey-dance-revelations/.
2 "Lester Horton," Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, April 11, 2016, https://www.alvinailey.org/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater/lester-horton.
3 Chuck Arnold, "Alvin Ailey Doc: How a Poor Kid from Texas Became a Modern Dance Legend," New York Post (blog), accessed October 25, 2021, https://nypost.com/2021/07/22/alvin-ailey-doc-how-a-poor-texas-kid-became-a-dance-legend/.
4 "Alvin Ailey," National Museum of African American History and Culture, May 7, 2020, https://nmaahc.si.edu/LGBTQ/alvin-ailey.
5 "Alvin Ailey," National Museum of African American History and Culture.

AMANDA BLAKE

1929-1989



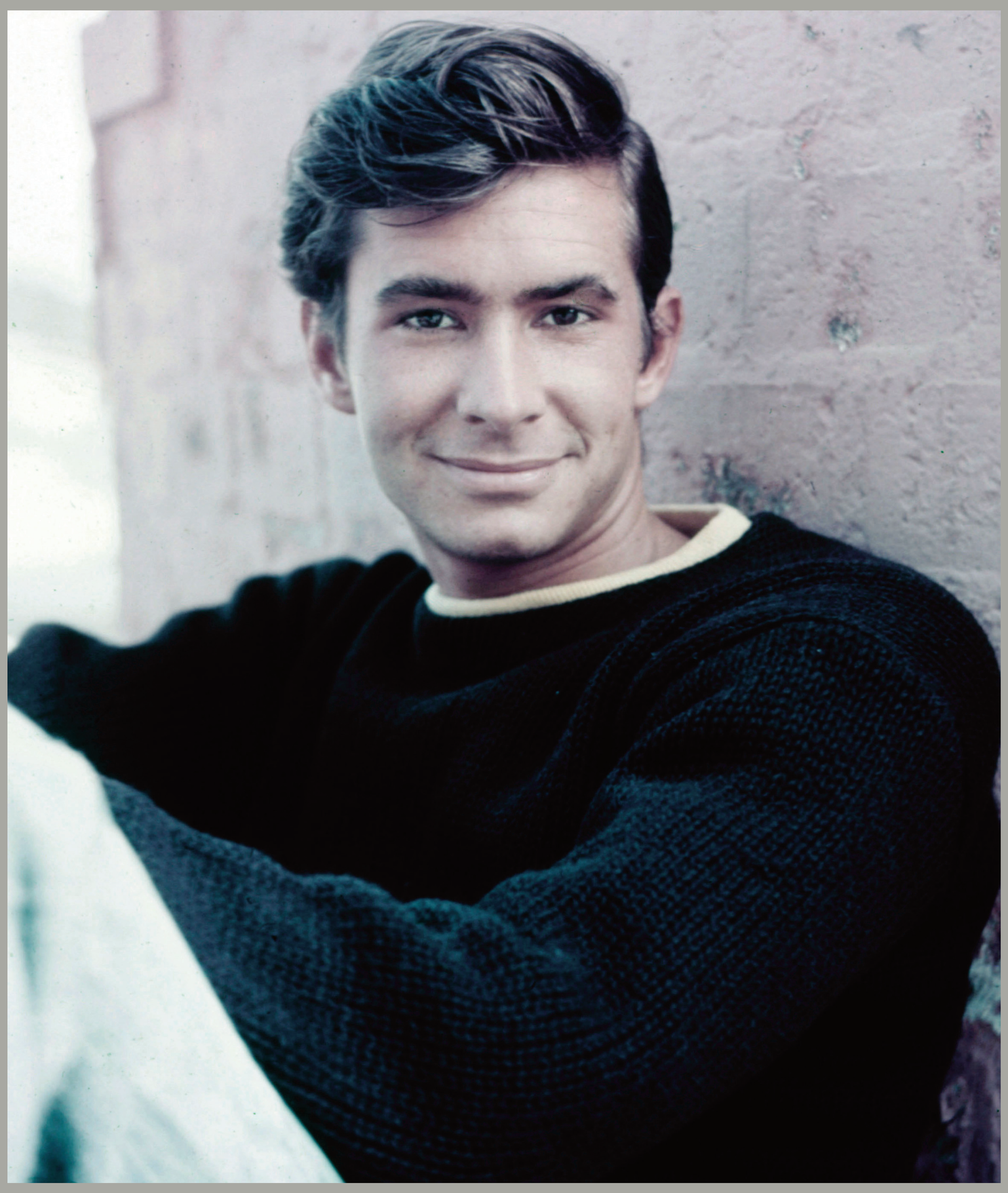
Actress

Amanda Blake was an actress best known for her role on *Gunsmoke* as Miss Kitty. She appeared in all but the last season of its 20-year run on television.[1] In 1950, she appeared in her film *Stars in My Crown*.[2] Though she enjoyed her acting career, her true passion was animals. She and her third husband Frank Gilbert bred cheetahs on their property and once took her pet lion cub to the set of *Gunsmoke*.[3] She joined forces with animal rights activists to start the largest no-kill animal shelter in the state of Arizona, the Arizona Animal Welfare League in 1971[4] and later founded Performing Animal Welfare Society.[5] She also made several trips to Africa learning about animal conservation efforts.[6] After successfully fighting oral cancer, she became involved with the American Cancer Society - winning their Courage Award in 1985.[7] At the time of her death, it was announced that she passed away from throat cancer.[8] In truth, Blake had been diagnosed with AIDS the year before her death, and her doctor revealed her true cause of death when family members contested her will.[9]

1 "What Happened to Amanda Blake, Gunsmoke's Sassy Miss Kitty?," Country Thang Daily, July 3, 2020, https://www.countrythangdaily.com/what-happened-to-amanda-blake-gunsmoke-sassy-miss-kitty/.
2 What Happened to Amanda Blake."
3 Courtney Fox, "Amanda Blake: What Happened to Miss Kitty from 'Gunsmoke'?," Wide Open Country, October 9, 2021, https://www.wideopencountry.com/amanda-blake-miss-kitty/.
4 Fox, "Amanda Blake."
5 "What Happened to Amanda Blake."
6 "What Happened to Amanda Blake."
7 Fox, "Amanda Blake."
8 AP, "Amanda Blake Died of AIDS, Doctor Says," The New York Times (The New York Times, November 8, 1989), https://www.nytimes.com/1989/11/08/us/amanda-blake-died-of-aids-doctor-says.html.
9 "What Happened to Amanda Blake."

ANTHONY PERKINS

1932-1992



Actor

Anthony Perkins grew up in New York City and had a difficult relationship with his mother after his father's death when he was 5 years old.[1] Interested in performing, he landed professional stage roles when he was 15 and quickly picked up film and television roles.[2] He is best known for his role as Norman Bates in the Hitchcock's *Psycho films*, which unfortunately typecast him.*3* In 1973, he married Berry Berenson.[4] In 1990, Perkins and his wife started volunteering with the group Project Angel Food, which provided "meals for individuals who are homebound due to HIV".[5] After his death in 1992, fans were shocked to learn that he passed from AIDS-related complications.[6] Perkins was tested for HIV after he saw an article in *The Enquirer* revealing that he was positive for the virus.[7] At the time, he had never knowingly been tested for HIV.[8] His family thinks his blood was secretly tested when he went for medical attention for facial palsy.[9] Perkins desired for privacy in his final years was shaped by his humility after working with other AIDS patients and deep scepticism about his peers' reaction - especially after the death of his friend and fellow AIDS-sufferer Brad Davis (who originated the role of Ned Weeks on Broadway).[10]

1 Biography.com Editors, "Anthony Perkins," Biography.com (A&E Networks Television, April 16, 2019), https://www.biography.com/actor/anthony-perkins.
2 Biography.com Editors, "Anthony Perkins".
3 Biography.com Editors, "Anthony Perkins".
4 Biography.com Editors, "Anthony Perkins".
5 Biography.com Editors, "Anthony Perkins".
6 Busayo Ogunjimi, "Anthony Perkins' Fatal Incurable Disease Was Kept Secret and Only Revealed after His Passing," news.amomama.com (news.amomama.com, September 8, 2021), https://news.amomama.com/278221-anthony-perkins-died-disease-he-kept-sec.html.
7 Bernard Weinraub, "Anthony Perkins's Wife Tells of 2 Years of Secrecy," The New York Times (The New York Times, September 16, 1992), https://www.nytimes.com/1992/09/16/arts/anthony-perkins-s-wife-tells-of-2-years-of-secrecy.html.
8 Weinraub, "Anthony Perkins".
9 Weinraub, "Anthony Perkins".
10 Weinraub, "Anthony Perkins".

ARTHUR ASHE

1943-1993



Tennis Player

Arthur Ashe was the first (and still only) black man to win singles titles at the US Open, Wimbleton, and the Australian Open.[1] He grew up in Richmond, Virginia and attended UCLA on a full scholarship for tennis - winning the NCAA Men's Championship in 1965 before graduating with a degree in Business Administration.[2] He served in the Army from 1966-1968 and was stationed at West Point, which allowed him to continue playing tennis.[3] Ashe became the first black man in his sport to earn a million dollars in winnings.[4] He co-founded the Association of Tennis Players (for male players). His list of achievements are not limited to his on-court success. He became involved in a number of organizations - particularly those that focused their efforts on youth sports and racism - using his celebrity to help those who did not have a voice. After developing heart issues in the late 1970s, he was diagnosed with HIV in 1988 believing he was infected from a blood transfusion during a previous heart surgery.[5] He started the Arthur Ashe Foundation, which aims to eradicate AIDS by educating the public about HIV and supporting people living with AIDS and spoke to the United Nations General Assembly to raise funds for medical research on HIV/AIDS.[6] Wanting to be remembered for more than just being a tennis player, he was active until his death raising awareness about HIV and racism and starting the Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health, which seeks to address healthcare in minority populations.[7] Among his posthumous honors, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom and had the US Open tennis stadium renamed the Arthur Ashe Stadium.[8] The ESPY award The Arthur Ashe Courage Award continues his legacy by honoring athletes who "…reflect the spirit of Arthur Ashe, possessing strength in the face of adversity, courage in the face of peril and the willingness to stand up for their beliefs no matter what the cost."[9]

1 Biography.com Editors, "Arthur Ashe," Biography.com (A&E Networks Television, January 19, 2021), https://www.biography.com/athlete/arthur-ashe.
2 "Life Story," Arthur Ashe Legacy, accessed October 23, 2021, https://arthurashe.ucla.edu/life-story/.
3 "Life Story."
4 History.com Editors, "Tennis Great Arthur Ashe Dies of AIDS," History.com (A&E Television Networks, November 16, 2009), https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/tennis-great-arthur-ashe-dies-of-aids.
5 Rob Thomas, "Arthur Ashe: A Hero on and off the Court," Cracked Racquets | Covering Tennis News Through Podcasting, Social Networking, and Digital Publications, September 24, 2018, https://www.crackedracquets.com/arthur-ashe-a-hero-on-and-off-the-court/.
6 "Life Story."
7 "Life Story."
8 Thomas, "Arthur Ashe."
9 Thomas, "Arthur Ashe."

BILLY PORTER

1969-present



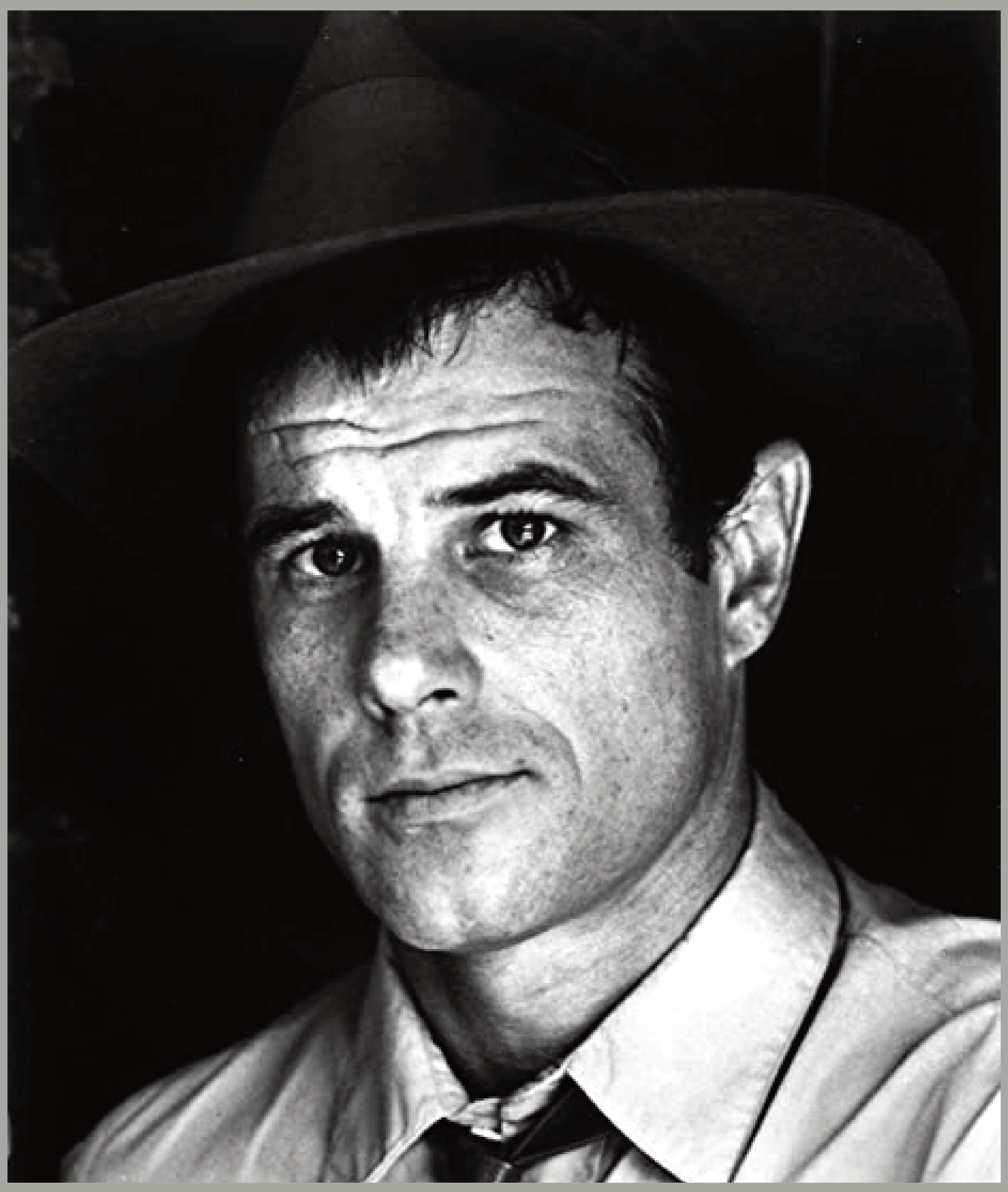
Actor

Billy Porter is an actor best known for his Emmy award-winning role on *Pose* and for his headline grabbing looks on red carpets. He started his career in musical theatre with a role in *Miss Saigon* in 1991 but shot to stardom with his Tony award-winning and Grammy award-winning performance in *Kinky Boots* on Broadway.[1] He ran away from an abusive home and came out as gay at age 16.[2] He attended a performing arts high school and graduated from Carnegie Mellon University with a BFA.[3] Following his HIV diagnosis in 2007, he has recently become an advocate for HIV awareness and education. Porter narrated the HBO docuseries *EQUAL*, which "traces the history of the LGBTQ movement through the Stonewall uprising in 1969."[4] He recently published *Unprotected: A Memoir*, chronicling his struggles with childhood sexual abuse and bullying, discrimination, and HIV.[5] Up next, he will be playing the Fairy Godmother in a *Cinderella* remake.[6]

1 Amanda Mitchell, "Billy Porter Hit the Golden Globes Red Carpet in an over-the-Top Feathered Gown," Oprah Daily, March 26, 2021, https://www.oprahdaily.com/entertainment/a28968416/billy-porter-facts/.
2 Jocelyn Noveck, "Billy Porter Helps Examine Origins of Gay Rights Movement," Associated Press News, October 20, 2020, https://apnews.com/article/virus-outbreak-entertainment-gay-rights-billy-porter-6fe1aee67c91cc26c7d2643a29579a04-facts/.
3 Mitchell, "Billy Porter Hit."
4 Noveck, "Billy Porter Helps Examine."
5 Noveck, "Billy Porter Helps Examine."
6 Mitchell, "Billy Porter Hit."

BRAD DAVIS

1949-1991



Actor

Brad Davis was born in Tallahassee, Florida in 1949, and moved to New York to pursue acting when he was 18.[1] In 1978, Davis became an overnight phenomenon with the starring role in *Midnight Express*. Fame led him to alcoholism and drug addiction, derailing his career before he got clean in 1981.[2] Several years later, in 1985, Davis was informed he was HIV-positive—likely resulting from previous intravenous drug use. That very same year, he originated the role of Ned in *The Normal Heart*.[3] Larry Kramer noted that Brad was one of the few actors willing to play gay roles[4], something that he had already done in Fassbinder's 1982 film *Querelle*.[5] Brad and his wife kept his diagnosis a secret until he died via assisted suicide at home in September of 1991. He and his wife were forthcoming about his experience with AIDS immediately after his death, leading to the perception that he was the first straight celebrity to die from AIDS. In Davis's final weeks he wrote:

> ***I make my money in an industry that professes to care very much about the fight against AIDS but in actual fact, if an actor is even rumored to have HIV, he gets no support on an individual basis.***

To support his dream that people living with HIV/AIDS might not face that kind of discrimination, Susan Bluestein Davis wrote about her husband's experiences in *After Midnight: The Life and Death of Brad Davis*.[6]

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1 Victor F. Zonana, "Brad Davis, 41, Star of 'Midnight Express,' Dies," Los Angeles Times, September 10, 1991, https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-1991-09-10-mn-2443-story.html.
2 Alex Witchel, "For the Widow Of Brad Davis, Time Cannot Heal All the Wounds," The New York Times, April 16, 1997, https://www.nytimes.com/1997/04/16/garden/for-the-widow-of-brad-davis-time-cannot-heal-all-the-wounds.html.
3 Zonana, "Brad Davis, 41, Star of 'Midnight Express,' Dies."
4 Dotson Rader, "The Normal Heart Playwright Larry Kramer: I Don't Know Why Gay People Are Hated, But We Are," Parade, July 24, 2013, https://parade.com/56371/dotsonrader/the-normal-heart-playwright-larry-kramer-i-dont-know-why-gay-people-are-hated-but-we-are/.
5 Zonana, "Brad Davis, 41, Star of 'Midnight Express,' Dies."
6 Amy Selwyn, "Suffering a Secret: Brad Davis and AIDS," southcoasttoday.com, accessed October 25, 2021, https://www.southcoasttoday.com/article/19970620/NEWS/306209938.

CHARLIE SHEEN

1965-present



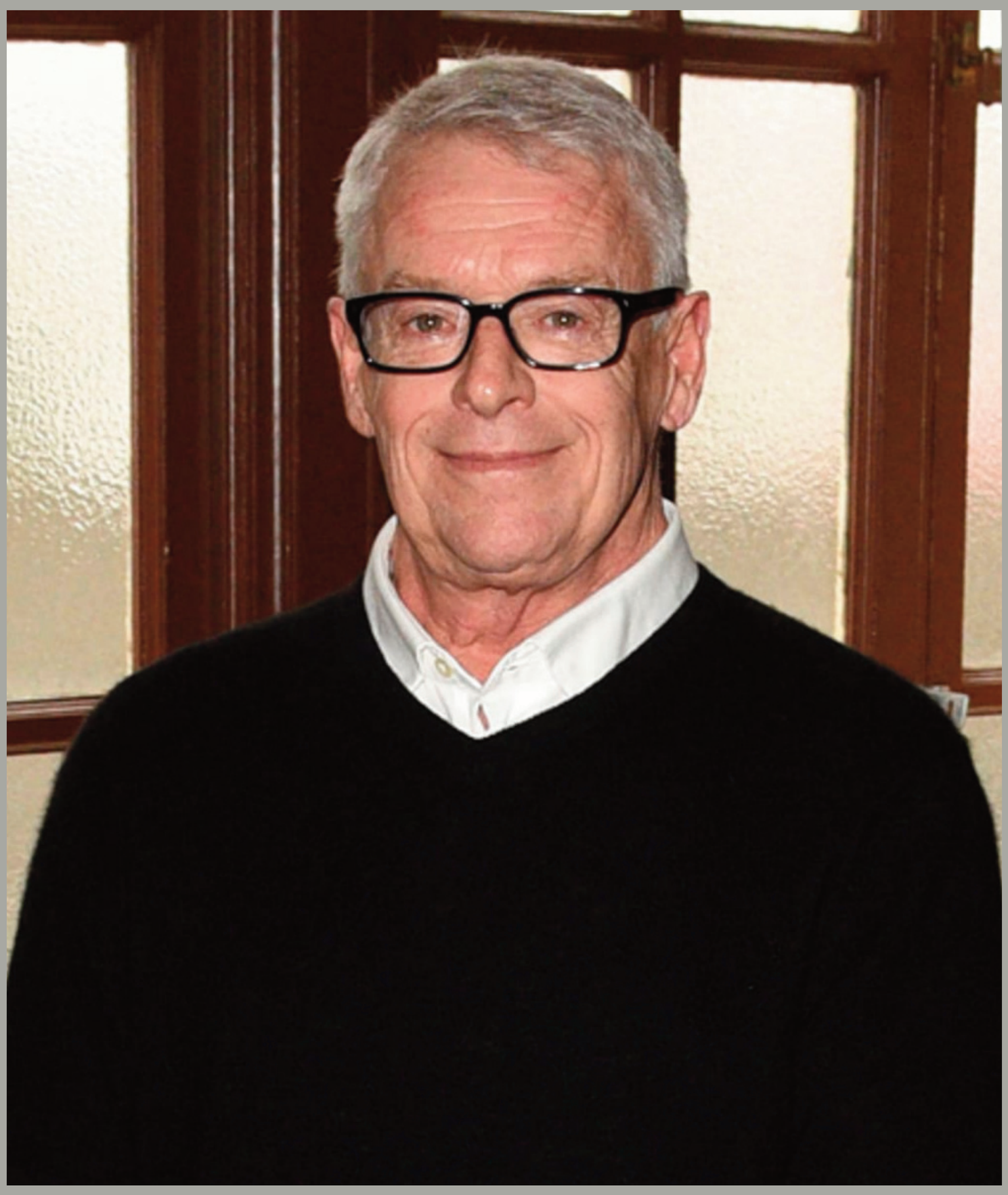
Actor

Charlie Sheen has been a film and television actor since the age of nine, when he first appeared alongside his father Martin Sheen.[1] Though he was recruited to play baseball in college, he was eventually expelled from high school for skipping class, possessing drugs, and stealing credit cards.[2] He decided to try to make it as an actor, to the dismay of his parents, and landed a role in *Red Dawn* the following year.[3] He earned praise for his dramatic work in films such as *Platoon* and *Wall Street* before trying comedic work in the *Major League* and *Hot Shots* series.[4] He is best known as Charlie Harper on *Two and Half Men*, a show that made him the highest paid actor in television history.[5] However, Sheen also earned a reputation as one of Hollywood's bad boys for having a long history of drug and alcohol abuse and domestic violence.[6] After more legal trouble and a series of bizarre interviews (some in which he verbally attacked his *Two and Half Men* boss), he was fired from the show.[7] In November 2015, he revealed that he had been diagnosed with HIV four years earlier and was only coming forward because he was being blackmailed.[8] His interview renewed public interest in HIV/AIDS and led to an increase in Google searches about HIV by 417% and doubled the sales of HIV at-home test kits.[9]

1 "Charlie Sheen: 1965-: Actor - First Introduced to Acting," First Introduced To Acting - Estevez, Movie, School, and Martin - JRank Articles, 2021, https://biography.jrank.org/pages/4020/Sheen-Charlie-1965-Actor-First-Introduced-Acting.html.
2 "Charlie Sheen: 1965-".
3 Biography.com Editors, "Charlie Sheen," Biography.com (A&E Networks Television, October 7, 2020), https://www.biography.com/actor/charlie-sheen.
4 Biography.com Editors, "Charlie Sheen".
5 Biography.com Editors, "Charlie Sheen".
6 Alexandra Korba, "Charlie Sheen: A Timeline of a Troubled Life," USA Today (Gannett Satellite Information Network, November 17, 2015), https://www.usatoday.com/story/life/people/2015/11/16/charlie-sheen-timeline-troubled-life/75893700/.
7 Korba, "Charlie Sheen".
8 Korba, "Charlie Sheen".
9 "'Charlie Sheen Effect' on HIV," BBC News (BBC, February 22, 2016), https://www.bbc.com/news/health-35629036.

CLEVE JONES

1954-present



Activist

Cleve Jones, once mentored by Harvey Milk, is an AIDS and LGBTQ activist.[1] Even though he knew he was gay in his early teens, he did not come out to his family until he was an adult.[2] He studied political science at San Francisco State University and served as an intern to Harvey Milk, an opening gay politician.[3] Jones has said Milk's assassination in 1978 was a defining moment in his life.[4] In the early 1980s, he worked for the speaker of the California state assembly focusing on gay rights and health issues, a position that saw him researching the AIDS epidemic as it was just emerging.[5] In 1983, he co-founded the San Francisco AIDS Foundation to provide services for those living with AIDS.[6] He found out he was HIV-positive in 1985.[7] Jones went public with his diagnosis receiving death threats and was even stabbed outside his home.[8] He started an annual candlelight vigil to honor Milk and had attendees write the names of loved ones who died from AIDS on a placard; at the end of the march, he taped the placards to the side of a building and remarked that it looked like a quilt.[9] He took that thought and created The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt two years later.[10] It is now one of the world's largest community arts projects.[11] When it was first displayed on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. in 1987, it had panels representing 1,920 people who had died from AIDS.[12] Today, there are over 50,000 panels.[13] In addition to his work with SFAF and the AIDS Memorial Quilt, Jones has continued advocating for LGBTQ rights and those living with HIV.[14]

1 "About Cleve," Cleve Jones, accessed October 25, 2021, https://www.clevejones.com/about-cleve/.
2 Biography.com Editors, "Cleve Jones," Biography.com (A&E Networks Television, June 2, 2021), https://www.biography.com/activist/cleve-jones.
3 Biography.com Editors, "Cleve Jones".
4 Biography.com Editors, "Cleve Jones".
5 Biography.com Editors, "Cleve Jones".
6 "About Cleve".
7 Biography.com Editors, "Cleve Jones".
8 Biography.com Editors, "Cleve Jones".
9 "Founder of AIDS Quilt," The National AIDS Memorial, accessed October 25, 2021, https://www.aidsmemorial.org/post/cleve-jones.
10 Biography.com Editors, "Cleve Jones".
11 "About Cleve".
12 "History of the NAMES Project Foundation," Omeka RSS, accessed October 25, 2021, https://digitalprojects.rice.edu/wrc/Houston-LGBTQ/exhibits/show/names-project/names-project-foundation.
13 Biography.com Editors, "Cleve Jones".
14Biography.com Editors, "Cleve Jones".

EAZY-E

1964-1995



Rapper

Eazy-E was a rapper, producer, and songwriter best known as a part of the group NWA alongside Dr. Dre and Ice Cube. The group's controversial lyrics started the gangsta rap trend of the 1990s.[1] Their album Straight Outta Compton was the pinnacle of the group's success though he went on to have a very successful career as a solo artist and producer.[2] In early 1995, he announced to the public that he had been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS, making him only the third well-known African-American to confirm his HIV status.[3] When he announced his condition, he said:

> ***I'm not religious, but wrong or right, that's me. I'm not saying this because I'm looking for a soft cushion wherever I'm heading. I just feel I've got thousands of young fans who have to learn about what's real when it comes to AIDS. I've learned in the last week that this thing is real, and it doesn't discriminate. It affects everyone.[4]***

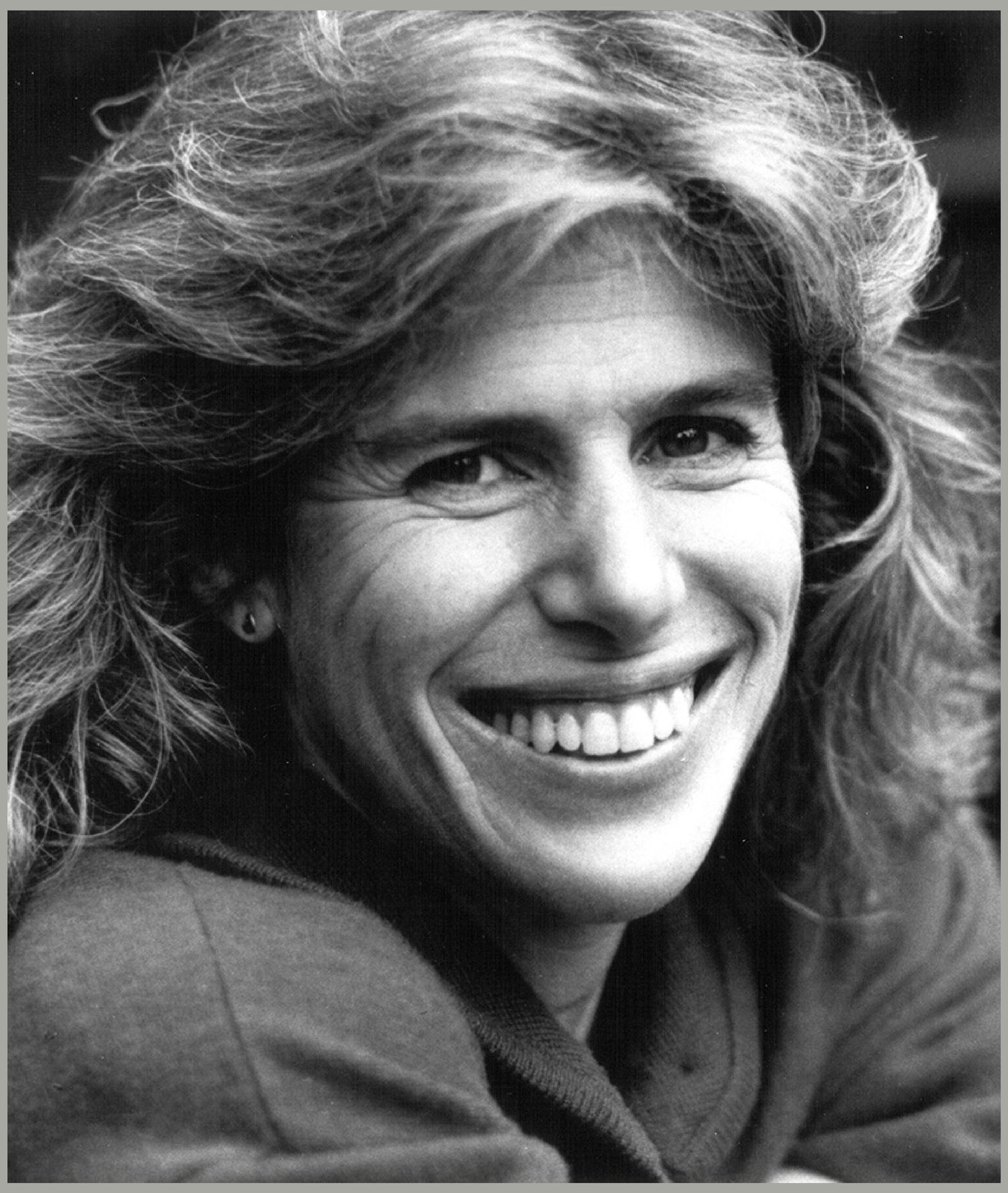
How he obtained HIV is still debated amongst his fans; some believe he was deliberately infected by a music rival or by the federal government.[5]

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1 Biography.com Editors, "Eazy-E," Biography.com (A&E Networks Television, June 29, 2020), https://www.biography.com/musician/eazy-e.
2 Biography.com Editors, "Eazy-E."
3 Alec Banks, "The Conspiracy behind the Death of Eazy-E," Highsnobiety, April 22, 2021, https://www.highsnobiety.com/p/eazy-e-death-conspiracy/.
4 Banks, "The Conspiracy".
5 Banks, "The Conspiracy".

ELIZABETH GLASER

1947-1994



Teacher & Activist

Elizabeth Glaser, a special education teacher, married Paul Michael Glaser of *Starsky and Hutch* fame in 1980 and immediately wanted to start a family. When the couple's first child Ariel was born the following year, the delivery was difficult and Elizabeth needed a transfusion of seven units of blood.[2] By 1985, the couple were the parents of Ariel (4) and Jake (2) when they found out that not only had Elizabeth been infected with HIV during that blood transfusion, but that she had passed the virus on to Ariel through breastfeeding and to Jake in utero.[3] The family went public with their story when confronted by T*he National Enquirer*.[4] Very little was understood about HIV/AIDS at the time, and it was considered to be an adult disease.[5] AZT was the only drug used for HIV treatment and it was only for adults.[6] Ariel died at age 7.[7] Using her grief over her daughter's death and fear for her son's life to fuel action, Elizabeth began a campaign for medical research to treat children with HIV and founded the Pediatric AIDS Foundation.[8] She held fundraisers and met with political and research leaders imploring them to find treatments for children to little avail.[9] She gained the nation's attention when she spoke at the Democratic National Convention in 1992 (one month before Mary Fisher spoke at the RNC) about the issues facing those living with HIV asking the audience, "What's the point of caring if we don't do something about it?"[10] She passed away from AIDS-related complications in 1994, but her foundation lives on working to prevent HIV infections in children internationally.[11] Her son Jake works at the Pediatric AIDS Foundation and lives a healthy life.[12]

1 "Elizabeth Glaser - Life and Legacy," Medium (Medium, January 28, 2017), https://pac-ucla.medium.com/elizabeth-glaser-life-and-legacy-5f52232a5501.
2 "Elizabeth's Story," Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, November 2, 2018, https://www.pedaids.org/about/elizabeths-story/.
3 "Elizabeth's Story".
4 "Elizabeth Glaser - Life and Legacy".
5 "Elizabeth Glaser - Life and Legacy".
6 "Elizabeth Glaser - Life and Legacy".
7 "Elizabeth's Story".
8 "Elizabeth Glaser - Life and Legacy".
9 "Elizabeth Glaser - Life and Legacy".
10 "Elizabeth Glaser - Life and Legacy".
11 "Elizabeth Glaser - Life and Legacy".
12 "Elizabeth's Story".

FREDDIE MERCURY

1946-1991



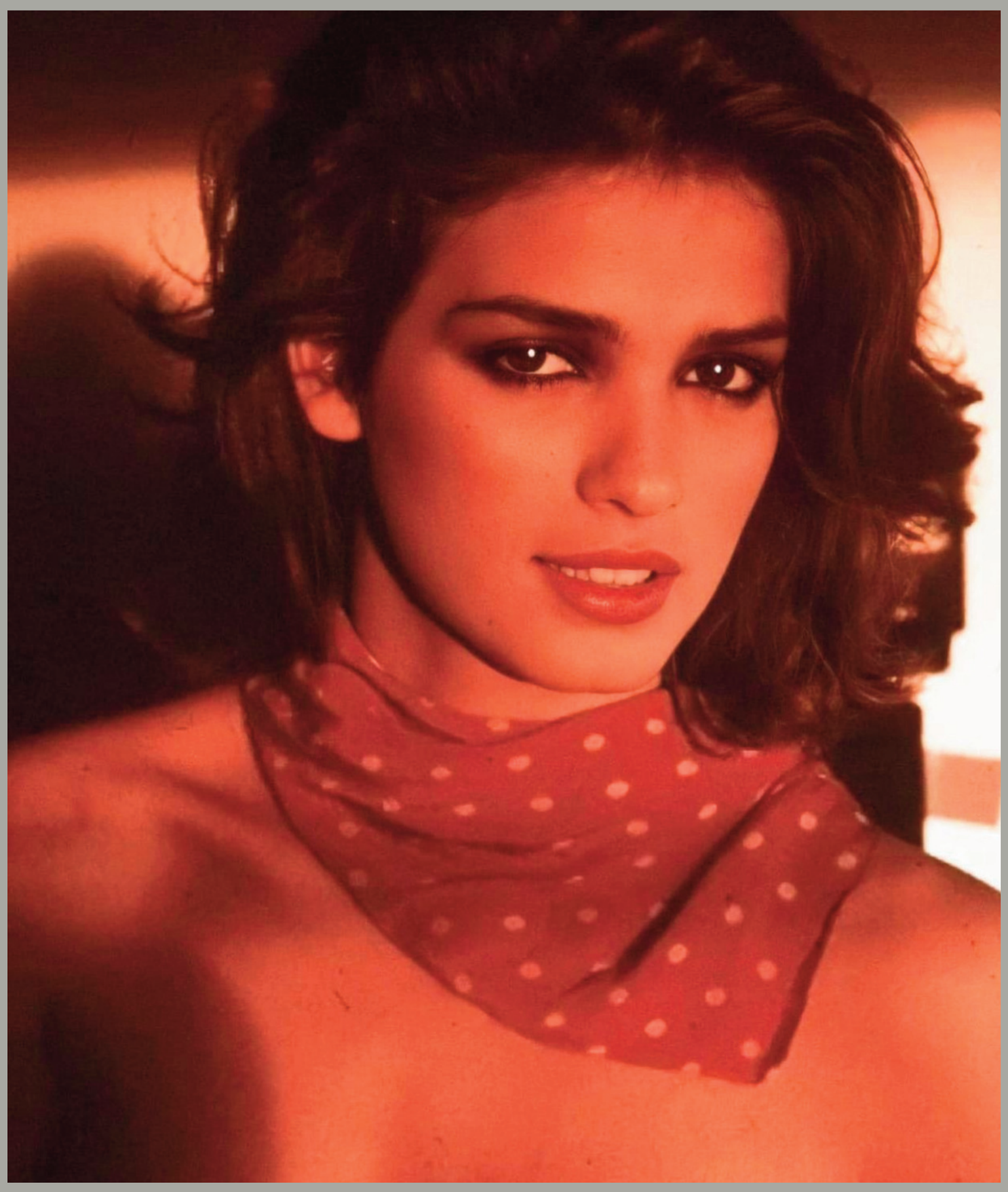
Musician

Freddie Mercury was the lead singer and songwriter for the band Queen. He was born in Zanzibar and was sent to boarding school in India where he learned to play piano.[1] His family moved to England at the start of the Zanzibar Revolution in 1964, and he joined a band called Smile with Brian May and Roger Taylor.[2] He changed his name from Bulsari to Mercury and changed the band's name to Queen despite objections from his bandmates.[3] The band experimented with harmonies and melodies, but it was not until their third album that the band began to experience success when they released the track "Killer Queen".[4] Mercury's remarkable four-octave vocal range, songwriting style, and showmanship helped propel Queen to being one of the biggest rock bands in the world.[5] The band boasts some of the most iconic songs in rock such as "Bohemian Rhapsody", "Another One Bites the Dust", "Don't Stop Me Now", "We Are the Champions", and "Crazy Little Thing Called Love". The band had a resurgence in popularity following their performance in the Live Aid charity concert, which benefited those with AIDS in Africa.[6] He did not promote the band's newest album in 1989 leading to speculation about health concerns.[7] On November 23, 1991, he announced that he had AIDS and died the following day.[8]

1 Biography.com Editors, "Freddie Mercury," Biography.com (A&E Networks Television, March 29, 2021), https://www.biography.com/musician/freddie-mercury.
2 Alexander Eckstein, ed., "Freddie Mercury - Biography, Life, Facts, Family and Songs," Famous Singers, accessed October 23, 2021, http://www.famoussingers.org/freddie-mercury.
3 Eckstein, "Freddie Mercury."
4 Tom Eames, "Freddie Mercury Facts: Queen Singer's Age, Teeth, Real Name, Relationships and More Explained," Smooth (Smooth, February 11, 2021), https://www.smoothradio.com/artists/freddie-mercury/facts-death-teeth-songs-age-net-worth/.
5 Eames, "Feddie Mercury Facts".
6 Biography.com Editors, "Freddie Mercury."
7 Jeff Giles, "How Freddie Mercury Stared Down Mortality on Queen's 'Innuendo'," Ultimate Classic Rock, February 4, 2016, https://ultimateclassicrock.com/queen-innuendo/.
8 Biography.com Editors, "Freddie Mercury."

GIA CARANGI

1960-1986



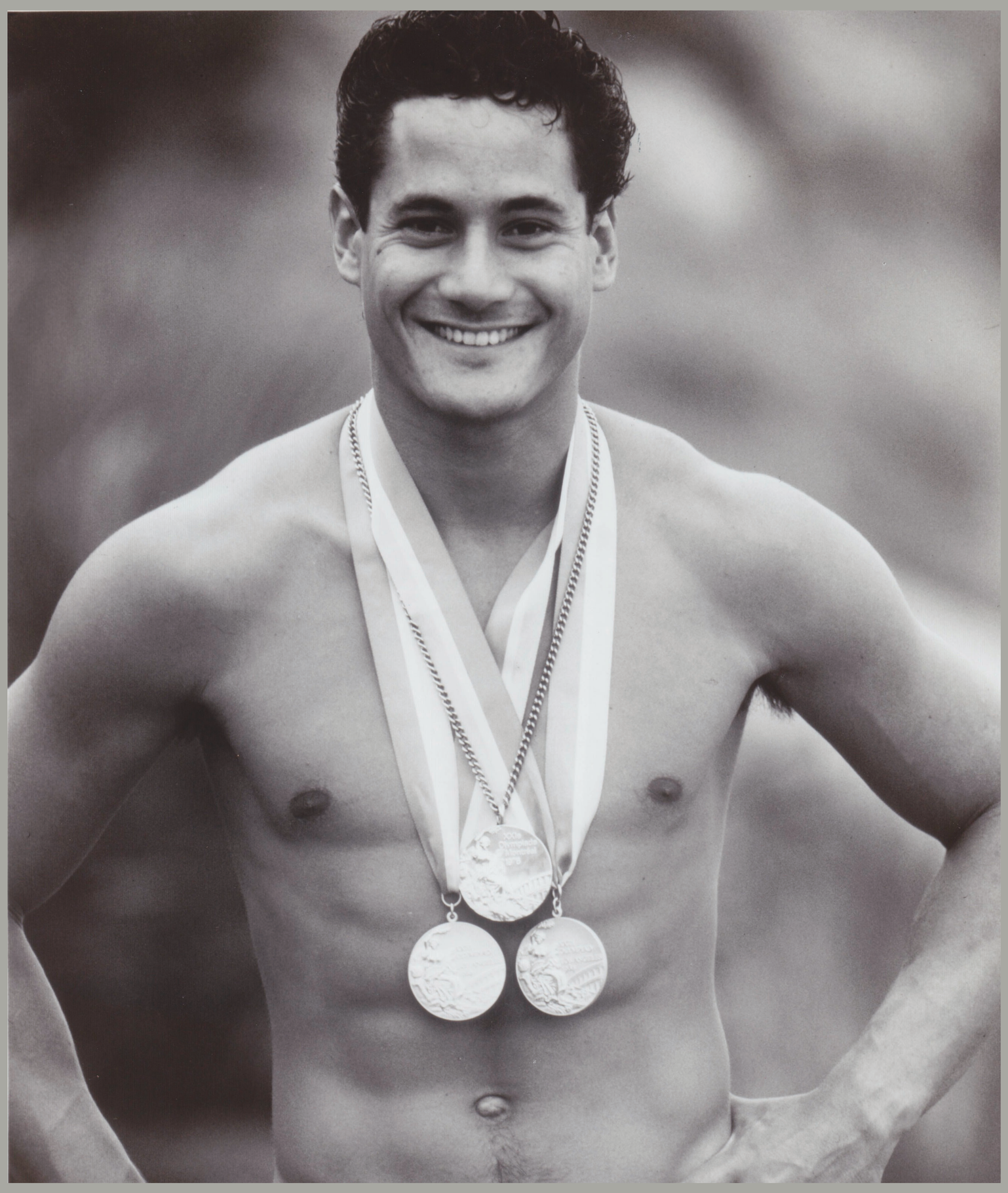
Model

Gia Carangi grew up in Philadelphia with her dad after her parents divorced when she was 11 years old.[1] She was a huge fan of David Bowie and adopted his androgyous style.[2] At age 17, she was signed by Wilhemnia Cooper, who became her mentor and surrogate mother.[3] Carangi's dark, no-makeup looks and willowy frame made her an instant success in the modeling world as she stood in stark contrast to the prevalent look at the time.[4] At 18, she was the highest paid model in the world - earning $100,000 a year - making her the first supermodel.[5] She was the first openly gay model.[6] She had a reputation for being difficult to work due to her attitude and drug abuse, which spiraled out of control when Cooper died.[7] Though she did make attempts to stop using drugs, she never kicked the habit for long.[8] She had to have hand surgery in May of 1981 to repair damage from an infected vein caused by repeated heroin injections.[9] She shot her last cover photo in 1982 but she had to hide her track marks during the photoshoot.[10] With the modeling industry tired of her antics, she lost all contracts and eventually found work selling jeans at a mall and at a nursing home cafeteria.[11] Homeless, she was diagnosed with HIV after she was found beaten and raped in the fall of 1986.[12] She died weeks later from AIDS-related complications with her recently reunited mother by her side.[13]

1 Jenna Curcio, "Gia Carangi's Secret Moments," CR Fashion Book (CR Fashion Book, January 29, 2020), https://www.crfashionbook.com/fashion/g25904023/gia-carangis-secret-moments/?slide=1.
2 Curcio, "Gia Carangi's Secret Moments".
3 Cooper, "The Story of Gia".
4 Curcio, "Gia Carangi's Secret Moments".
5 Curcio, "Gia Carangi's Secret Moments".
6 Giuli Alvarenga, "The First Supermodel, Gia Carangi, Died of AIDS ... - Thebody," The Body - The HIV/AIDS Resource, December 2, 2019, https://www.thebody.com/article/remembering-gia-carangi.
7 Cooper, "The Story of Gia".
8 William DeLong, "Beautiful but Damned: The Tragic and Very Public Self-Destruction of America's First Supermodel," All That's Interesting (All That's Interesting, February 7, 2021), https://allthatsinteresting.com/gia-carangi.
9 DeLong, "Beautiful but Damned".
10 Curcio, "Gia Carangi's Secret Moments".
11 Curcio, "Gia Carangi's Secret Moments".
12 DeLong, "Beautiful but Damned".
13 DeLong, "Beautiful but Damned".

GREG LOUGANIS

1960-present



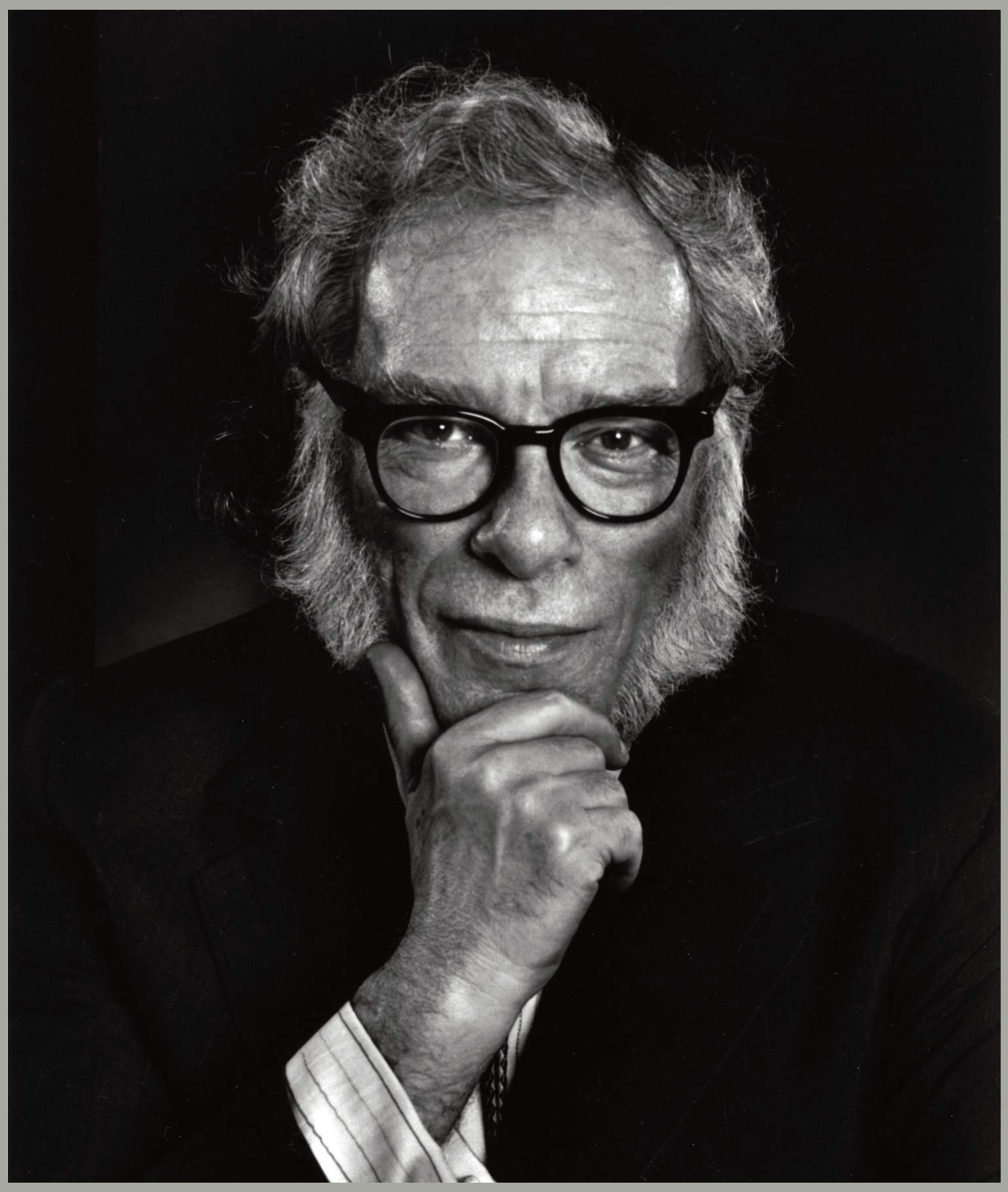
Olympic Diver

Whenever the topic of excellence in sports comes up, Greg Louganis is always mentioned as "the GOAT" of men's diving and with good reason. He competed in his first Olympics at age 16 winning the silver medal for the 10 meter diving competition in 1976.[1] The US boycotted the following summer games held in Moscow. At the 1984 Olympic Games, he competed before his hometown and swept both of the men's competitions - scoring the first (and still only) a perfect 10 from all 7 judges and being the first to score more than 700 points for a competition.[2] Despite hitting his head on the springboard that required stitches during the competition in the 1988 Olympic Games, he still won gold in both events.[3] Just months earlier, Louganis found out he was HIV-positive - a diagnosis he shared with his coach who kept it secret because he would not have been allowed to compete otherwise[4] (a decision that would prove to be controversial later). He retired from diving the following year and embarked on a career in theatre playing the role of a chorus member dying from AIDS in *Jeffrey* and later in the one-man comedy *The Only Things Worse You Could've Told Me. . .*[5] It was not until 1994 that Louganis came out publicly as gay and as HIV-positive due to stigma.[6] Today, he is as healthy and active as ever. He currently serves as the Sports Director of the Red Bull Cliff Diving World Series[7] and speaks about dyslexia and drug and alcohol addiction to young groups.[8]

1 International Olympic Committee, "Gregory Louganis," Olympics.com, 2021, https://olympics.com/en/athletes/gregory-louganis.
2 International Olympic Committee, "Gregory Louganis."
3 Ron Flatter, "Louganis Never Lost Drive to Dive," ESPN (ESPN Internet Ventures), accessed October 23, 2021, https://www.espn.com/sportscentury/features/00016086.html.
4 Boria Majumdar, "Greg Louganis on His Battle with HIV: 'the First Question Was, Why Me?'," The Economic Times, December 18, 2018, https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/sports/the-first-question-was-why-me-greg-louganis-olympic-diver/articleshow/67137759.cms?from=mdr.
5 Flatter, "Louganis Never Lost."
6 Amanda Onion, "How Greg Louganis' Olympic Diving Accident Forced a Conversation about Aids," History.com (A&E Television Networks, June 10, 2021), https://www.history.com/news/greg-louganis-diving-accident-aids.
7 Onion, "How Greg Louganis."
8 Flatter, "Louganis Never Lost."

ISAAC ASIMOV

1920–1992



Writer & Scientist

Isaac Asimov was born in Soviet Russia in 1920 before he and his parents immigrated to the United States through Ellis Island.[1] After serving in the Naval Aviation Experimental Station in Philadelphia during World War II, Asimov earned a Ph.D. in chemistry from Columbia University and joined the faculty of Boston University.[2] From there, Asimov wrote roughly 500 books: both fiction and nonfiction. His fiction work as part of science fantasy's Golden Age became his most famous.[3] Works like *I, Robot* (1950), the Foundation Trilogy (1951-1953), and *The Gods Themselves* (1972) led to his receiving seven Hugo Awards and two Nebula Awards in his lifetime. His work remains in publication and widely read decades after his death in 1992 at the time reported to be of heart and kidney failure.[4] Ten years after he died, Isaac's wife edited and published an autobiography for her husband. In the epilogue, she broke the news that her husband's death was in fact caused by complications from AIDS that he contracted in a blood transfusion in 1983. The couple had been warned by doctors not to discuss Isaac's diagnosis publicly.[5]

1 David Leslie, "Isaac Asimov: Centenary of the Great Explainer," Nature 577, no. 7792 (January 28, 2020): 614–16, https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-020-00176-4.
2 Erik Gregersen, "Isaac Asimov," Encyclopedia Britannica, accessed October 25, 2021, https://www.britannica.com/biography/Isaac-Asimov.
3 Leslie, "Isaac Asimov: Centenary of the Great Explainer."
4 Mervyn Rothstein, "Isaac Asimov, Whose Thoughts and Books Traveled the Universe, Is Dead at 72," The New York Times, April 7, 1992, https://www.nytimes.com/1992/04/07/books/isaac-asimov-whose-thoughts-and-books-traveled-the-universe-is-dead-at-72.html.
5 Janet Asimov, "Locus Online: Letter from Janet Asimov," accessed October 25, 2021, https://www.locusmag.com/2002/Issue04/Letter.html.

JONATHAN VAN NESS

1987-Present



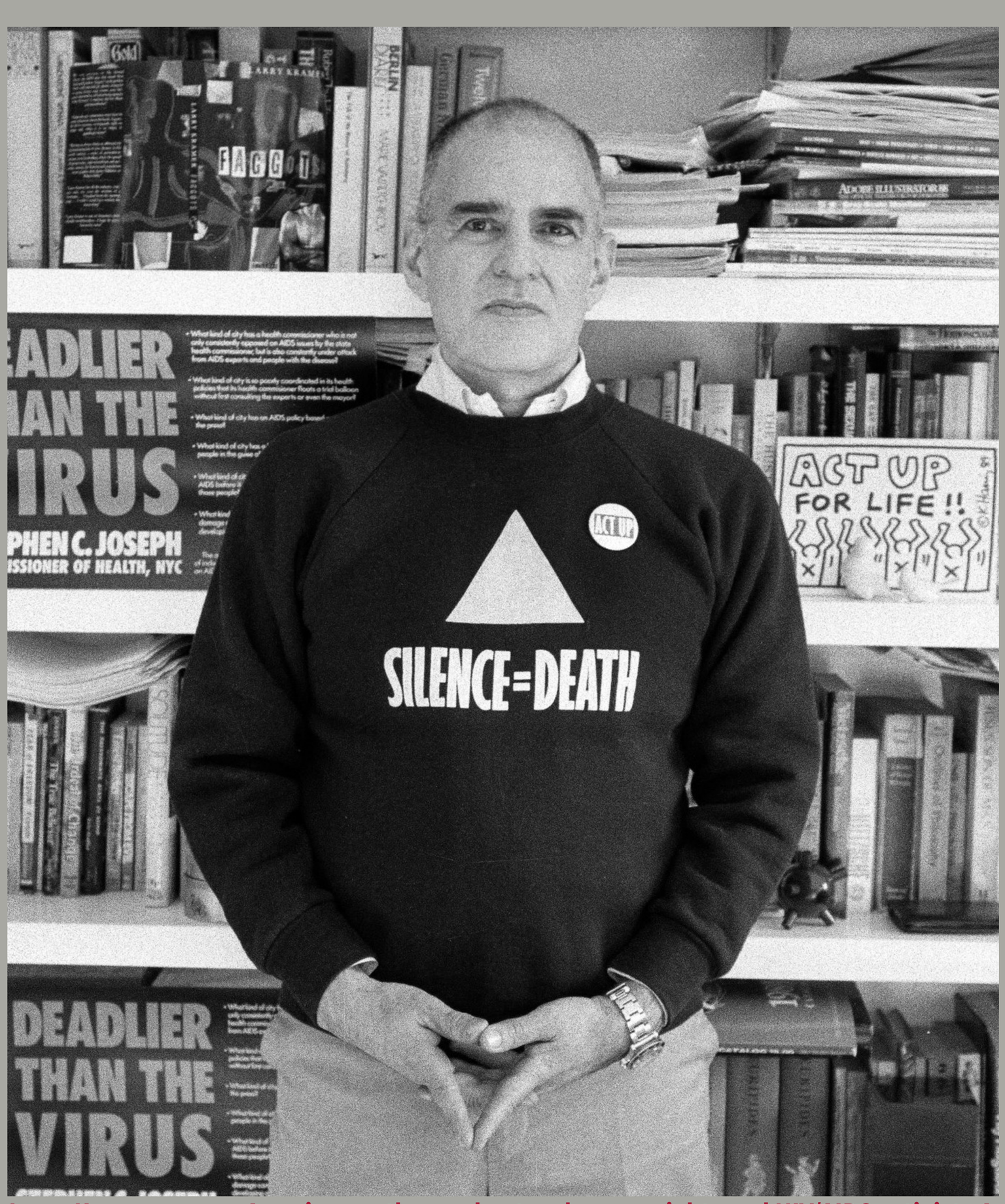
TV Personality

Jonathan Van Ness grew up In Quincy, Illinois as one of the few openly queer kids in a small town.[1] His parents owned Quincy Media, which operated several television stations and newspapers in the area. Jonathan was eager to leave Quincy, so he graduated early and left to attend the University of Arizona in Tucson. Jonathan struggled with sex and drug addiction and dropped out of university in his first year. He then enrolled in the Aveda Institute in Minneapolis, where he earned his beautician's certificate. Shortly after, Jonathan was diagnosed with HIV.[2] He moved to California in 2009 and worked in a salon in Los Angeles where he was able to get clean. In 2013, he created a parody series called *Gay of Thrones*, which was later nominated for three Creative Arts Emmys.[3] When Netflix decided they were going to reboot *Queer Eye*, Van Ness got his most public role yet as the hairdresser in the show's "Fab 5."[4] Since then, Jonathan has become an advocate for the LGBTQ+ community and an example for youth. In addition to his role on *Queer Eye*, Van Ness hosts a podcast called *Getting Curious with Jonathan Van Ness* and recently published a memoir entitled *Over the Top: A Raw Journey to Self-Love*.[5, 6]

1 Matt Dutton, "LIFE STORIES: Van Ness on Whirlwind Journey as One of Fab Five on 'Queer Eye' Reboot," Herald-Whig, accessed October 26, 2021, https://www.whig.com/archive/article/life-stories-van-ness-on-whirlwind-journey-as-one-of-fab-five-on-queer-eye/article_be37339a-dbd8-5b74-ad30-149be15b06af.html.
2 Alex Hawgood, "Jonathan Van Ness of 'Queer Eye' Comes Out," The New York Times, September 21, 2019, sec. Style, https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/21/style/jonathan-van-ness-hiv-memoir.html.
3 "Gay Of Thrones," Television Academy, accessed October 26, 2021, https://www.emmys.com/shows/gay-thrones.
4 Dutton, "LIFE STORIES: Van Ness on Whirlwind Journey as One of Fab Five on 'Queer Eye' Reboot."
5 Desiree Guerrero, "Jonathan Van Ness Gets to the Bottom of Being Over the Top," July 29, 2019, https://www.advocate.com/exclusives/2019/7/29/jonathan-van-ness-gets-bottom-being-over-top.
6 Dutton, "LIFE STORIES: Van Ness on Whirlwind Journey as One of Fab Five on 'Queer Eye' Reboot."

LARRY KRAMER

1935-2020



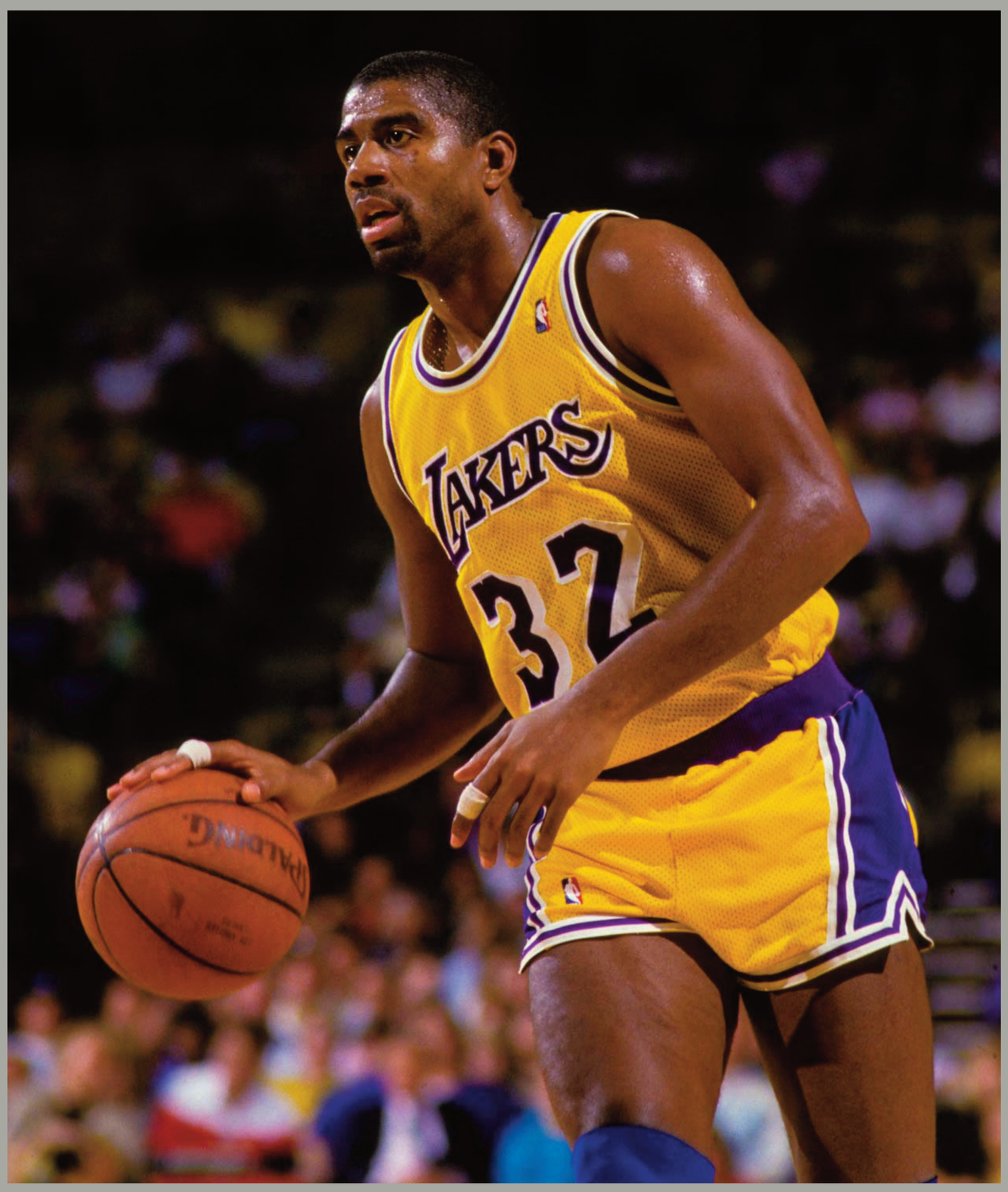
Playwright

Larry Kramer was an American author and outspoken gay rights and HIV/AIDS activist. As depicted in *The Normal Heart*, Kramer raised the alarm about the AIDS epidemic before the CDC even recognized there was a crisis brewing.[1] He invited Dr. Alvin Friedman-Kien to speak in his crowded apartment in August 1981 and raised $6,635 to start research on this unnamed illness - the only money that was raised for the cause for that entire year.[2] One of the co-founders for Gay Men's Health Crisis - the world's first and still largest AIDS service organization, he was kicked out the group for his abrasive style and called them "a sad organization of sissies".[3] He later founded a more militant group ACT UP to organize protests and demonstrations demanding research, treatments, and end HIV/AIDS and LGBT discrimination.[4] While the organization and Kramer made headlines for their antics, they were very effective at getting their message across to national leaders. He funneled his anger from watching his friends die to changing medical research in the country. After he was diagnosed with HIV in 1988, he began struggling with his health.[5] In 2001, Kramer developed a liver disease and needed a transplant.[6] Afterwards, Dr. Anthony Fauci, a man and former adversary Kramer previously called "an incompetent idiot and a murderer", helped him get in a life-saving experimental drug program. He continued authoring books and plays until his death.[7]

1 Neda Ulaby, "Larry Kramer, Pioneering AIDS Activist and Writer, Dies at 84," NPR (NPR, May 27, 2020), https://www.npr.org/2020/05/27/512714500/larry-kramer-pioneering-aids-activist-and-writer-dies-at-84.
2 History.com Editors, "AIDS Crisis Timeline," History.com (A&E Television Networks, June 14, 2021), https://www.history.com/topics/1980s/hiv-aids-crisis-timeline.
3 Daniel Lewis, "Larry Kramer, Playwright and Outspoken AIDS Activist, Dies at 84," The New York Times (The New York Times, May 27, 2020), https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/27/us/larry-kramer-dead.html.
4 Lewis, "Larry Kramer."
5 John Leland, "When Larry Kramer, Aids Warrior, Took on Another Plague," The New York Times (The New York Times, March 28, 2020), https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/28/nyregion/coronavirus-larry-kramer-aids.html.
6 Lewis, "Larry Kramer."
7 Lewis, "Larry Kramer."

MAGIC JOHNSON

1959-present



Basketball Player

Earvin “Magic” Johnson, Jr. was an NBA player with the LA Lakers. A native of Lansing, Michigan, he grew up in a large, working-class family.[1] He played basketball for Michigan State University for two years and left for the NBA draft after his team won the NCAA Men’s Basketball Championship in 1979.[2] During his career, he won five NBA championships; earned three regular-season MVP titles; scored a total of 17,707 points, 6,559 rebounds, and 10,141 assists; and still holds the spot for highest assists per game average.[3] In November 1991, Johnson shocked the world when he announced his retirement from the sport because he was HIV-positive.[4] Not one to sit on the sidelines, Johnson began educating first himself and then others about HIV. He wrote about book about safe sex and HIV prevention.[5] He still advocates for HIV awareness and speaks frequently about the medication regimen that he credits for keeping him healthy since his diagnosis 30 years ago.[6] He has also built a business empire - buying an ownership share of his beloved Lakers, a chain of restaurants, and movie theaters - that is now worth an estimated $600 million.[7]

1 “Magic Johnson Biography,” Encyclopedia of World Biography, 2021, https://www.notablebiographies.com/Jo-Ki/Johnson-Magic.html.
2 “Magic Johnson,” Magic Johnson: African American Basketball Legend, accessed October 24, 2021, http://www.myblackhistory.net/Magic_Johnson.htm.
3 NBA.com Staff, “Legends Profile: Magic Johnson,” NBA.com, September 14, 2021, https://www.nba.com/news/history-nba-legend-magic-johnson.
4 NBA.com Staff, “Legends Profile”.
5 Irwin Nunez, “Magic Johnson Has Survived Nearly 30 Years with HIV Thanks to a Once-Experimental Drug Cocktail - Sportscasting: Pure Sports,” Sportscasting, July 19, 2020, https://www.sportscasting.com/magic-johnson-has-survived-nearly-30-years-with-hiv-thanks-to-a-once-experimental-drug-cocktail/.
6 Nunez, “Magic Johnson”.
7 Jack Dougherty, “Magic Johnson Flexed His $600 Million Net Worth by Renting out a $1.1 Million-a-Week Superyacht for Summer Vacation - Sportscasting: Pure Sports,” Sportscasting, July 8, 2021, https://www.sportscasting.com/magic-johnson-flexed-600-million-net-worth-renting-1-1-million-week-superyacht/.

MARY FISHER

1948-present



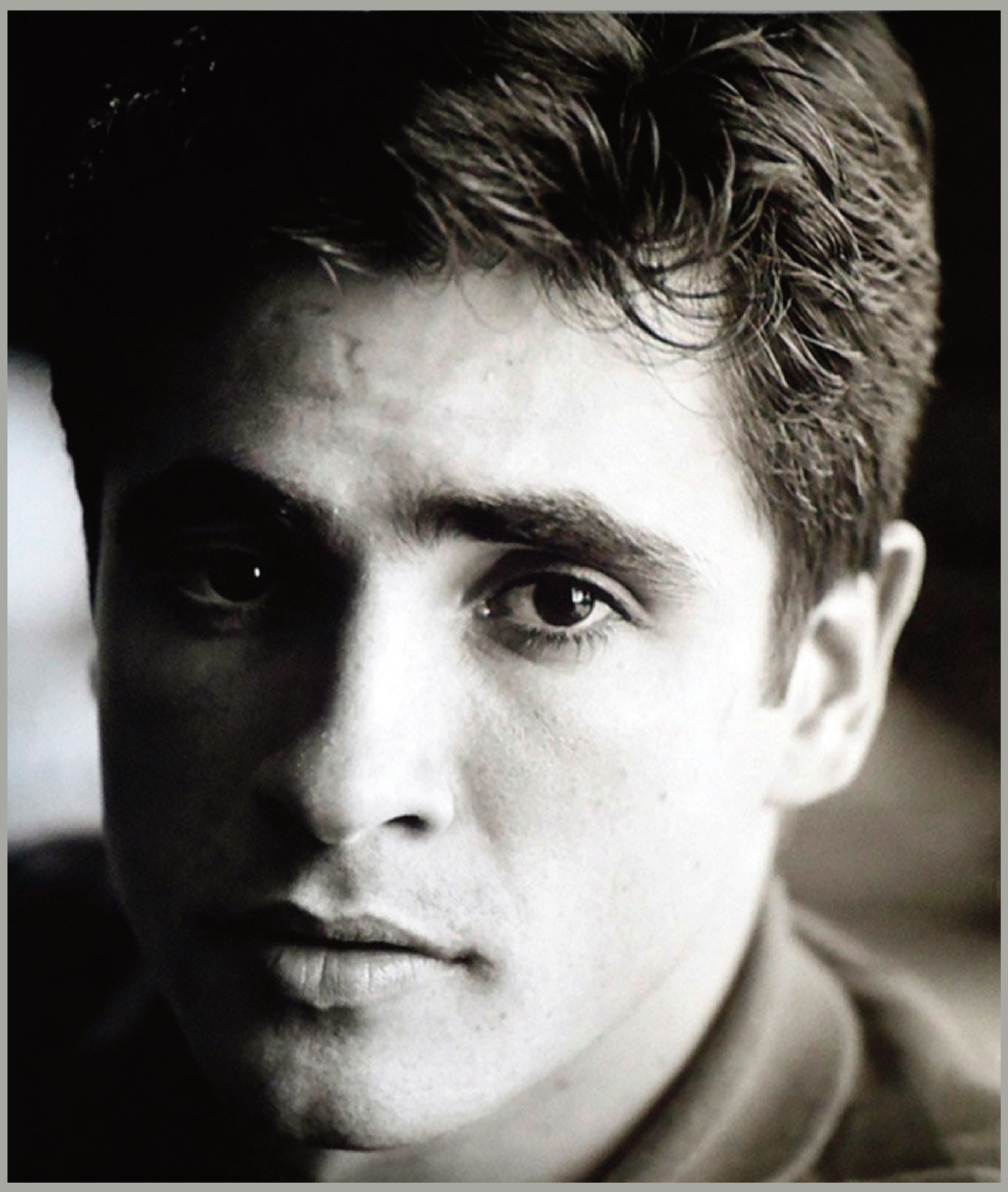
Advocate

Mary Fisher became a well-known name when she delivered her "A Whisper of AIDS" speech at the 1992 Republican National Convention.[1] At the time, many in the nation still believed HIV was only transmitted among homosexual men, sex workers, and intravenous drug users. As a former White House aide during the Ford Administration, her speech helped change the image of those living with HIV.[2] Though she was booed by the crowd in attendance that night, her heartfelt speech has been called "one of the '100 Best American Speeches of the 20th Century'" and is studied as a classical example of a persuasive speech in countless classrooms around the country.[3] Since then, she has continued working as an advocate for people living with HIV/AIDS by writing six books, giving numerous lectures, and serving as an ambassador to Unaids.[4]

1 "Mary Fisher," Archives of Women's Political Communication, accessed October 23, 2021, https://awpc.cattcenter.iastate.edu/directory/mary-fisher/.
2 "Mary Fisher".
3 "Mary Fisher".
4 Dan Shaw, "Defined by Words, Not by a Disease," The New York Times (The New York Times, August 22, 2012), https://www.nytimes.com/2012/08/23/fashion/aids-activist-mary-fisher-is-defined-by-words-not-disease.html.

PEDRO ZAMORA

1972-1994



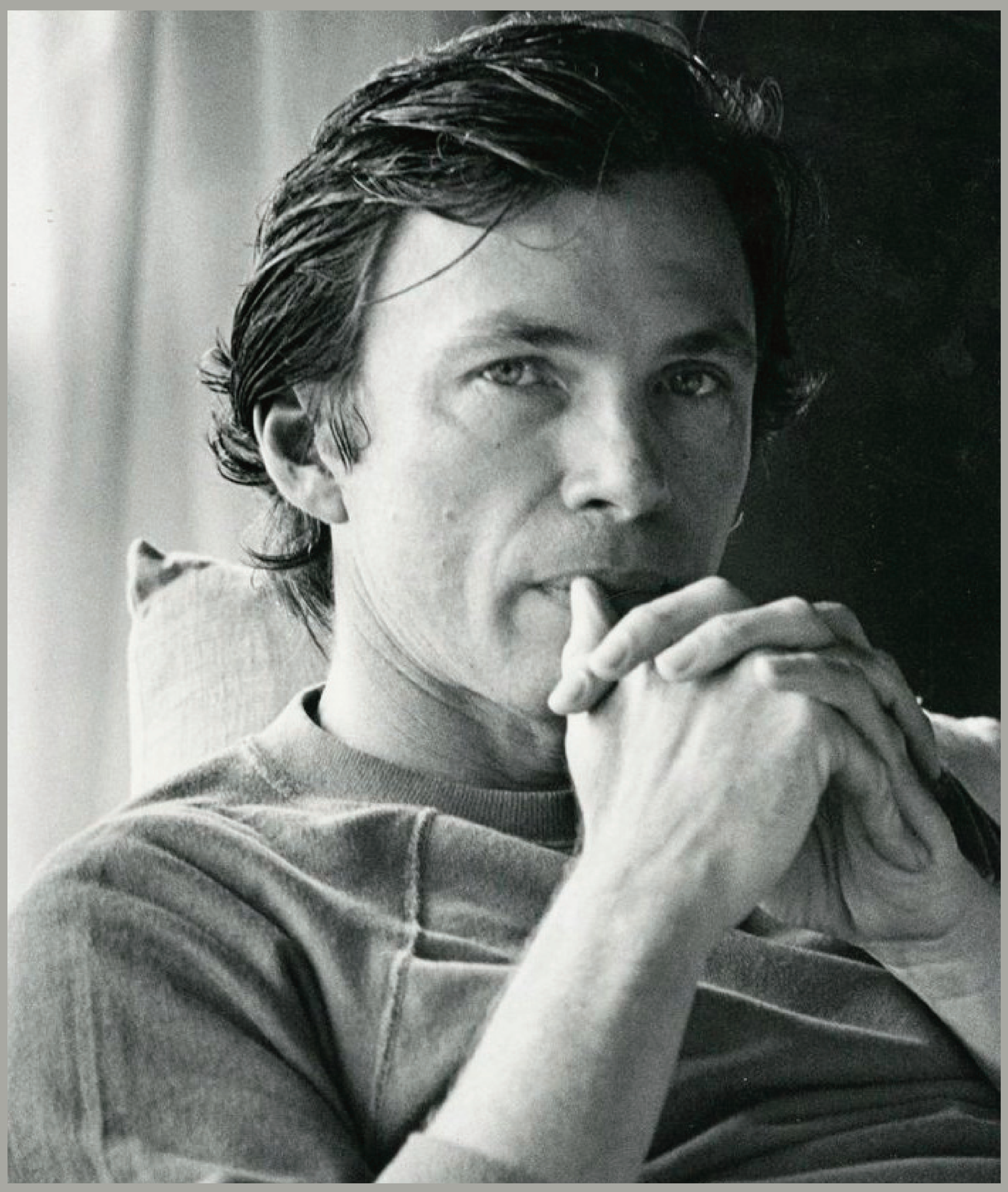
TV Personality

Pedro Zamora immigrated to the US from Cuba in 1980 as a part of the Mariel Boatlift.[1] He became an activist soon after his HIV diagnosis at age 17 attending protests at the White House, testifying before Congress, and educating young people about HIV/AIDS.[2] But he wanted to get his message out to as many people as possible, so he submitted a video audition for MTV's *Real World*. Producers cast him in the third season making Zamora "the first person openly living with the disease to ever be featured on reality television".[3] His connection with viewers not only educated them but changed the perception of gays living with HIV and inspired audiences around the world to take action.[4] He discussed his relationship with Sean Sasser - also living with HIV - on camera, and the couple's commitment ceremony was the first of its kind to be broadcast.[5] During a press tour for the show, Zamora's health started to decline.[6] MTV started giving regular updates about his condition to viewers.[7] The morning after the show's season finale aired, he passed away at the age of 22.[8]

1 Andy Dehnart, "Pedro Zamora Died 25 Years Ago Today, Hours after Real World San Francisco Ended," reality blurred, November 11, 2019, https://www.realityblurred.com/realitytv/2019/11/pedro-zamora-died-25-years-ago-today/.
2 Dehnart, "Pedro Zamora Died".
3 Dave Quinn, "Pedro Zamora's Real World Costars Remember AIDS Activist 25 Years after His Death," PEOPLE.com, November 12, 2019, https://people.com/tv/pedro-zamora-25th-anniversary-death/.
4 Quinn, "Pedro Zamora's Real World".
5 "Pedro Zamora," The National AIDS Memorial, accessed October 25, 2021, https://www.aidsmemorial.org/post/pedro-zamora.
6 Sid Smith, "Pedro Zamora, 22, AIDS Activist on MTV Show," chicagotribune.com, September 1, 2018, https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/ct-xpm-1994-11-12-9411120004-story.html.
7 Smith, "Pedro Zamora, 22".
8 Quinn, "Pedro Zamora's Real World".

PERRY ELLIS

1940-1986



Fashion Designer

Perry Ellis was an American fashion designer from a small coastal town in Virginia.[1] He gained widespread attention for his preppy sportswear collections in the 1970s & 1980s.[2] He graduated from the College of William and Mary with an undergraduate degree in Business and later from New York University with a Master's degree in Retailing.[3] He worked his way up from being a sportswear buyer and merchandiser, which taught him how to choose fabrics and patterns and how to sketch designs.[4] It was while working as a merchandiser for Manhattan Industries that his signature "slouch look" was formed.[5] When he started his own label in 1978, Perry Ellis Sportswear, it was an instant success.[6] He won two Cody awards each for his men's and women's fashion lines, earning induction into the Cody Hall of Fame in 1981 and the Council of Fashion Designers of America shortly thereafter.[7] A famously private man despite being a household name, Ellis died from an AIDS-related infection after a shockingly rapid deterioration of his health left him in a coma.[8]

1 Caroline Rennolds Milbank, "Perry Ellis," LoveToKnow (LoveToKnow Media, 2021), https://fashion-history.lovetoknow.com/fashion-clothing-industry/fashion-designers/perry-ellis.
2 Milbank, "Perry Ellis."
3 Bernadine Morris, "Perry Ellis, Fashion Designer, Dead," The New York Times (The New York Times, May 31, 1986), https://www.nytimes.com/1986/05/31/obituaries/perry-ellis-fashion-designer-dead.html.Morris, "Perry Ellis."
4 Morris, "Perry Ellis."
5 Morris, "Perry Ellis."
6 Milbank, "Perry Ellis."
7 Milbank, "Perry Ellis."
8 Milbank, "Perry Ellis."

ROBERT REED

1932-1992



Actor

Robert Reed was an American actor who spent time in school at both Northwestern University and the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London, where he studied Shakespeare. He returned to the United States and performed Shakespeare off-Broadway until 1964, when he made his Broadway debut in *Barefoot in the Park*.[1] Reed moved from New York to Los Angeles to adapt a television version of *Barefoot*, but plans for the show fell through. Shortly after, Paramount offered Reed the part of Mike Brady in *The Brady Bunch*.[2] For the next five years, Mike Brady provided a picture of the quintessential American father and Robert Reed became a household name. When *The Brady Bunch* ended in 1974, Reed pivoted to other TV projects.[3] He received three Emmy nominations for his roles in *Medical Center* (nominated 1976), *Rich Man, Poor Man* (nominated 1976), and *Roots* (nominated 1977).[4] Throughout the next decade, Reed worked on other TV series and reprised his role as Mike Brady several times.[5] Before he died, he taught Shakespeare at the University of California, Los Angeles—a return to his initial passion. When Reed died in 1992 of colon cancer, it became known that HIV was a contributing factor in his death.[6] Florence Henderson, who played Carol Brady on *The Brady Bunch*, later confirmed that Reed's close friends knew that he was gay. Reed's legacy remains his portrayal of America's dad; Susan Olsen, who played Cindy on the show, said of her television father: "Bob remains to this day my shining example of how an adult should be with kids… There was this unconditional, fatherly love that he had for us that we were always aware of."[7]

1 Biography.com Editors, "Robert Reed," Biography, accessed October 19, 2021, https://www.biography.com/actor/robert-reed.
2 "Downtown: The Real 'Mike Brady,'" ABC News, November 6, 2000, https://abcnews.go.com/2020/story?id=132724.
3 Editors, "Robert Reed."
4 "Robert Reed," Television Academy, accessed October 20, 2021, https://www.emmys.com/bios/robert-reed.
5 Editors, "Robert Reed."
6 The Associated Press, "H.I.V. Contributed to Death Of Robert Reed, Doctor Says," The New York Times, May 20, 1992, sec. U.S., https://www.nytimes.com/1992/05/20/us/hiv-contributed-to-death-of-robert-reed-doctor-says.html.
7 "Downtown."

ROCK HUDSON

1925-1985



Actor

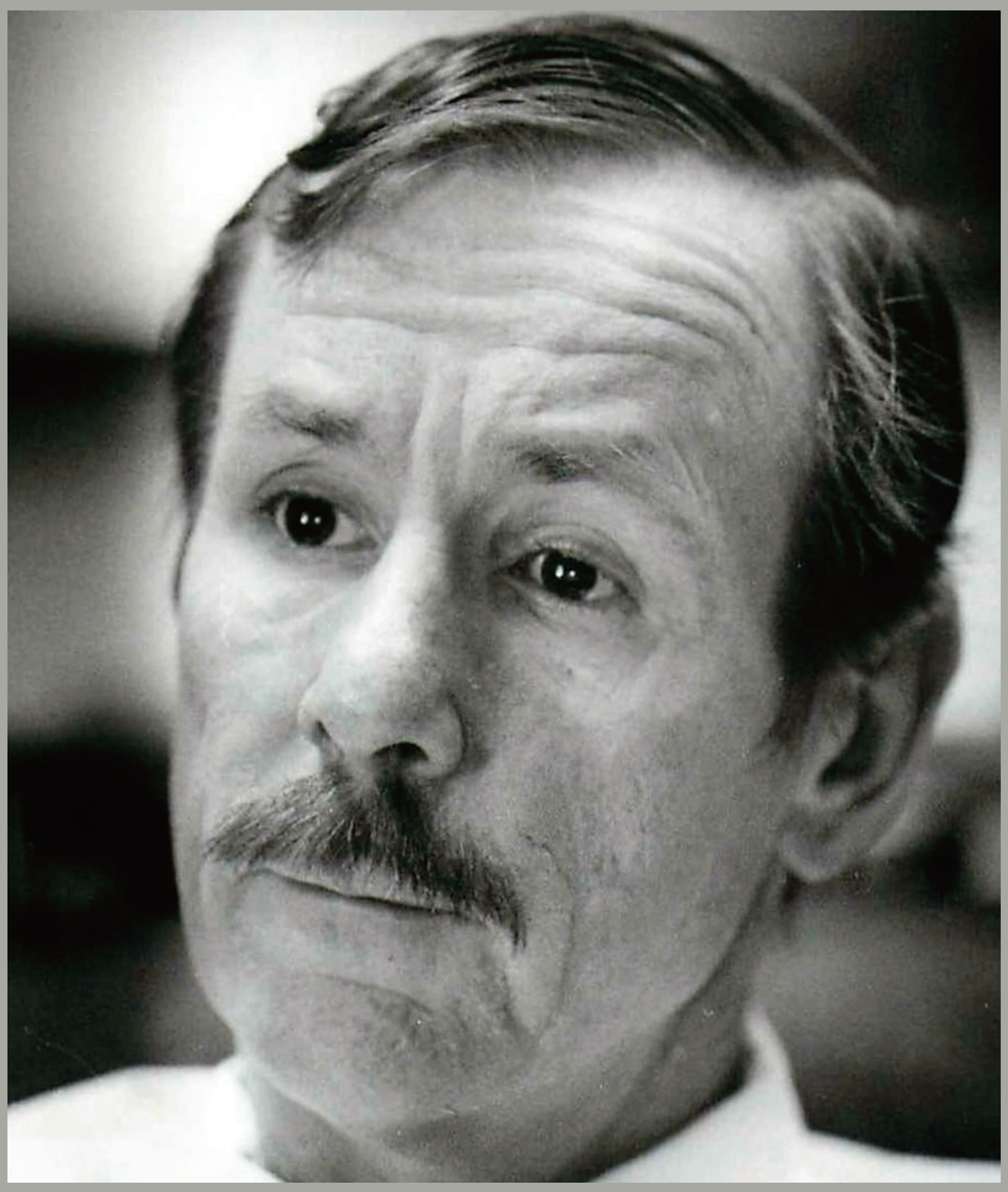
Rock Hudson was a film star from the Golden Age of Hollywood. After the end of World War II, Hudson joined the Navy and served a tour in the Philippines as a mechanic.[1] In 1946, he was discharged from the Navy and decided to pursue an acting career.[2] He was cast in films regularly but received his big break when he starred in the 1956 movie *Giants* alongside Elizabeth Taylor and James Dean and received an Oscar nomination for his work.[3] He starred in *Pillow Talk* with Doris Day, who was not only a frequent co-star but a lifelong friend, and cemented his status as a "heartthrob".[4] He was later cast in popular television series towards the end of his career.[5] He was diagnosed with Kaposi's Sarcoma in June 1984 and announced to the public that he had AIDS in 1985 - making him the first celebrity to reveal a positive AIDS diagnosis.[6] He spent the last year of his life anonymously writing letters to former lovers encouraging them to get medical attention for unusual symptoms and seeking experimental treatments.[7] Hudson donated $250,000 to establish amfAR, an organization dedicated to AIDS medical research.[8]

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1 Adrienne Gaffney, "Who Was the Real-Life Movie Star Rock Hudson in Netflix's 'Hollywood'?," ELLE (ELLE, February 12, 2021), https://www.elle.com/culture/movies-tv/a32334786/who-was-rock-hudson-hollywood/.
2 Biography.com Editors, "Rock Hudson," Biography.com (A&E Networks Television, May 13, 2021), https://www.biography.com/actor/rock-hudson
3 Gaffney, "Who was the Real-Life."
4 Biography.com Editors, "Rock Hudson"
5 Gaffney, "Who was the Real-Life."
6 Barbara Maranzani, "Why Rock Hudson's Decision to Come out Marked a Turning Point of the AIDS Epidemic," Biography.com (A&E Networks Television, March 30, 2021), https://www.biography.com/news/rock-hudson-coming-out-aids.
7 Manazani, "Why Rock Hudson's Decision".
8 Manazani, "Why Rock Hudson's Decision".

RON WOODROOF

1950-1992



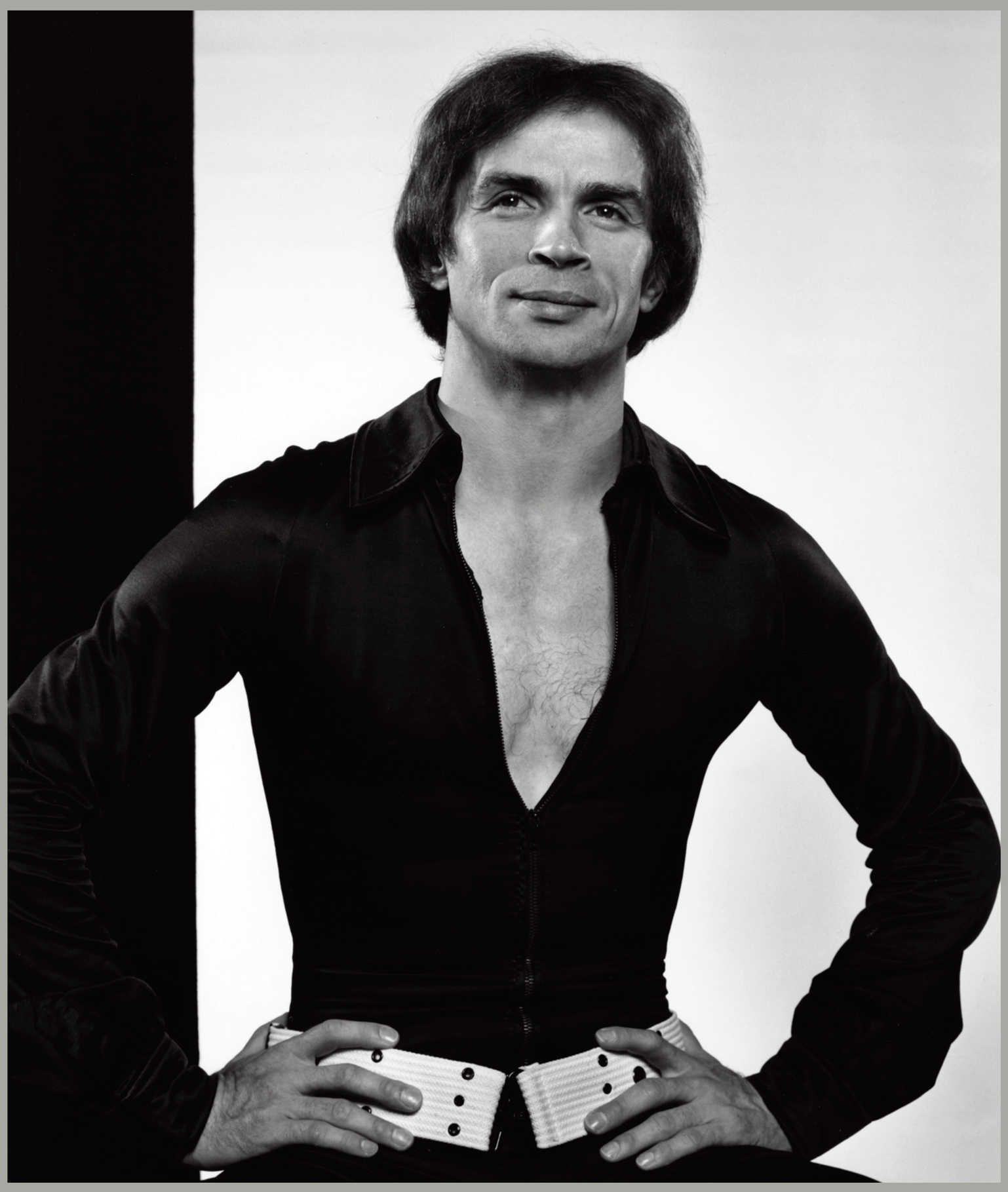
Activist

Ron Woodroof was born in Dallas, Texas in 1950, but relatively little is known about his life before the 1980s. He was working as an electrical contractor in 1986, when he was diagnosed with HIV/AIDS.[1] In a time when being HIV-positive was seen as a death sentence without any verified treatment, people diagnosed with the disease were desperate for a chance to live. Ron Woodroof provided those chances by struggling drugs across the United States-Mexico border and selling them to people diagnosed with HIV for no-profit. The organization he started was one of nine major "buyer's clubs" in 1992. These clubs pooled money from members, sent smugglers like Woodroof across the border to buy experimental drugs, and then tested those drugs for purity before dispensing them to club members.[2] Woodroof began receiving press for his organization in 1992, when Dallas Life Magazine told his story and documentary filmmakers started joining Woodroof in his border crossings. In addition to working as a smuggler, Woodroof was a plaintiff in multiple lawsuits that sought to spur action from the FDA and stop discriminatory healthcare practices.[3] Interest in Ron Woodroof's life was renewed in 2013 when Matthew McConaughey played him in *Dallas Buyer's Club*. The movie told Woodroof's story from prior to his diagnosis to his legal battles with the FDA.[4] The film won three Oscars including Best Supporting Actor for Jared Leto and Best Actor for McConaughey.[5]

1 Chris McNary, "Buying Time: World Traveler Ron Woodroof Smuggles Drugs — and Hope — for People with AIDS," Dallas News, August 9, 1992, https://www.dallasnews.com/news/1992/08/09/buying-time-world-traveler-ron-woodroof-smuggles-drugs-and-hope-for-people-with-aids/.
2 McNary, "Buying Time".
3 Elizabeth Blair, "The Dallas Cowboy Behind The Real 'Buyers Club,'" NPR, November 1, 2013, sec. Movies, https://www.npr.org/2013/11/01/242309799/the-dallas-cowboy-behind-the-real-buyers-club.
4 Aisha Harris, "How Accurate Is Dallas Buyers Club?," Slate, November 1, 2013, https://slate.com/culture/2013/11/dallas-buyers-club-true-story-fact-and-fiction-in-the-matthew-mcconaughey-movie-about-ron-woodroof.html.
5 "Dallas Buyer's Club Wins 3 Oscars," Focus Features, accessed October 26, 2021, https://www.focusfeatures.com/blog/dallas_buyers_club_wins_3_oscars.

RUDOLF NUREYEV

1938-1993



Dancer

Rudolf Nureyev was a former Soviet ballet dancer, who was trained at the Kirov Ballet School in Leningrad by Alexander Pushkin.[1] Upon graduation, he was hired as a soloist with the Kirov Ballet.[2] It was while the ballet company was on tour in Paris that he defected to France in 1961 thrusting him into the public eye.[3] His dance style revolutionized the standard for male dancers, a standard that continues today.[4] After his defection, he studied with Erik Bruhn at the Royal Danish Ballet where he remained as a guest performer until 1977.[5] He achieved international acclaim as a dancer and choreographer by the time he became the Director of the Paris Opera Ballet in 1983.[6] During his career as a dancer, he performed with 30 different ballet companies in 90 roles.[7] He worked to broaden ballet's appeal by developing young dancers, increasing the audience base, and giving more choreographic opportunities to women.[8] Nureyev was privately diagnosed with HIV in 1984 but continued to perform until 1991.[9] His health declined too much to allow his dance career to continue, so he learned how to conduct orchestras.[10] His diagnosis remained a secret until the morning following his death.[11]

1 "Rudolf Nureyev's Short Biography," Fondation Rudolf Noureev, October 5, 2021, https://nureyev.org/rudolf-nureyev-biography/main-dates-of-his-life/.
2 "Rudolf Nureyev's Short Biography."
3 "Rudolf Nureyev's Short Biography."
4 Joan Acocella, "Wild Thing," The New Yorker, October 1, 2007, https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2007/10/08/wild-thing-2.
5 "Rudolf Nureyev's Short Biography."
6 Madeline Roache, "Rudolf Nureyev and the True Story behind the White Crow," Time (Time, April 26, 2019), https://time.com/5576070/white-crow-true-story-rudolf-nureyev/.
7 Roache, "Rudolf Nureyev."
8 Roache, "Rudolf Nureyev."
9 Roache, "Rudolf Nureyev."
10 Acocella, "Wild Thing."
11 John Ezard and Carolyn Soutar, "Nureyev and Me," The Guardian (Guardian News and Media, January 30, 2003), https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2003/jan/30/dance.artsfeatures.

RYAN WHITE

1971-1990



Advocate

Ryan White was born with the hereditary disorder Hemophilia A, caused by the body's inability to create the protein "Factor VIII" that is vital to clotting blood. White was diagnosed with HIV when he was 13 years old - eight months before the U.S. blood supply started to be screened for HIV. His middle school district barred him from attending school and had to listen to his classes via telephone. The family gained national attention when they sued for (and won) the right to return to school, but they ultimately moved to another town after facing discrimination, harrassment, and violence. White became a national spokesperson on HIV talking to his new classmates, reporters, and legislators about AIDS, blood supply screenings, and patient care. He passed away at age 18 - one month before his high school graduation. Four months later, Congress passed the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act providing money "to help cities, states, and community-based organizations to develop and maintain coordinated and comprehensive systems of diagnosis, care and treatment, especially for the poorest Americans contending with HIV/AIDS." Elton John, who met White through this advocacy, has credited the teen with helping him change his own life by inspiring him to get sober and create the Elton John AIDS Foundation, which has raised over $300 million.

1 Dr. Howard Markel, "Remembering Ryan White, the Teen Who Fought against the Stigma of AIDS," PBS (Public Broadcasting Service, April 8, 2016), https://www.pbs.org/newshour/health/remembering-ryan-white-the-teen-who-fought-against-the-stigma-of-aids.
2 Markel, "Remembering Ryan White."
3 "Who Was Ryan White?," HIV/AIDS Bureau, November 14, 2017, https://hab.hrsa.gov/about-ryan-white-hivaids-program/who-was-ryan-white.
4 Markel, "Remembering Ryan White."
5 Markel, "Remembering Ryan White."
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THE RAY BROTHERS

Activists

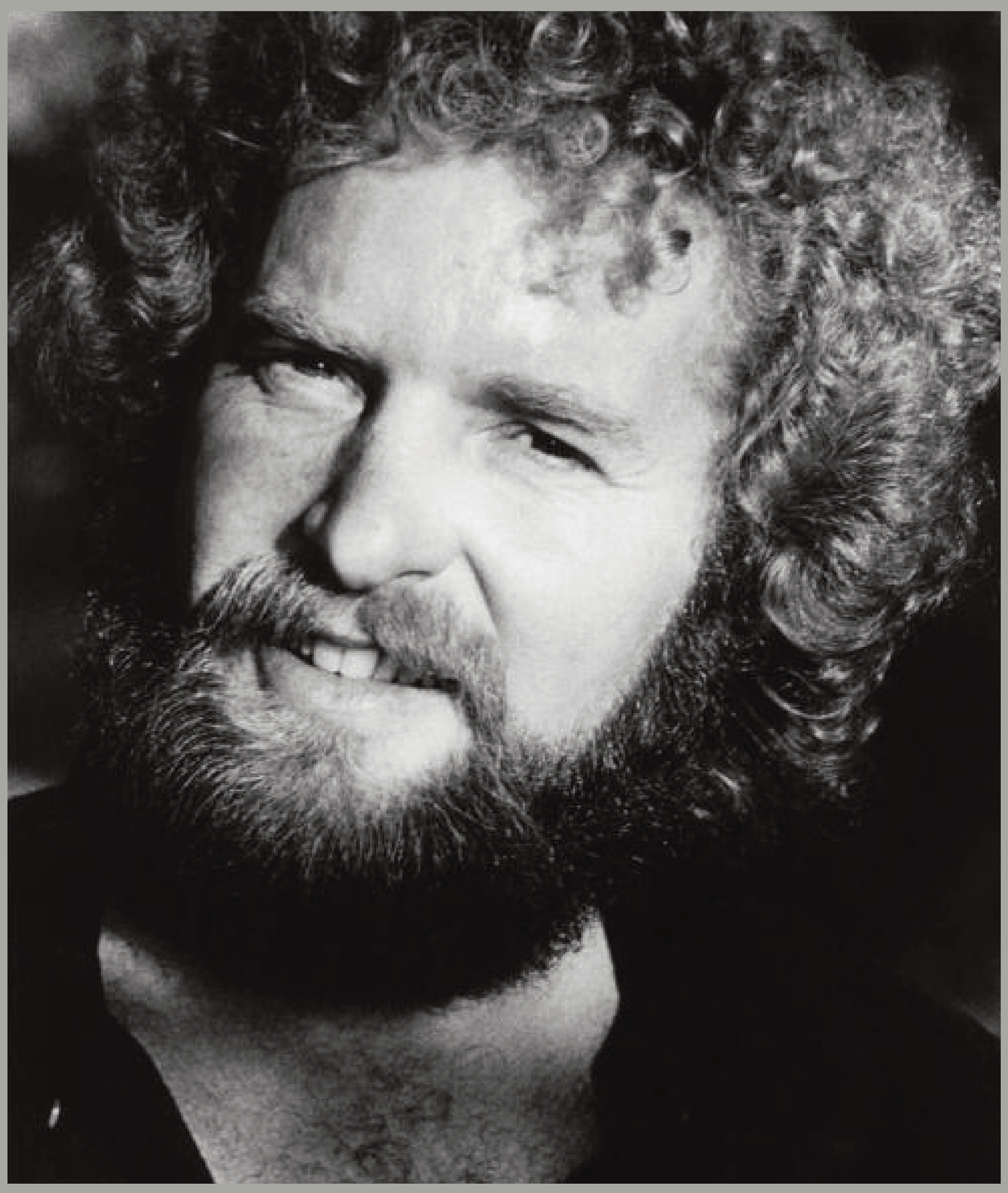


Ricky, Robert, and Randy Ray were brothers all born with hemophilia and all contracted HIV (and hepatitis) through Factor VIII treatments in 1985.[1] After they were diagnosed the following year, the family was rejected by the Acadia, Florida community in which they lived.[2] The DeSoto school system banned the brothers (all in elementary school) from attending, and they were asked to stop attending their longtime church, Central Baptist Church, for fears they would cause a panic among the congregation.[3] Parents Cifford and Louise Ray sued the school board for discrimination and was awarded a $1.1 million settlement by a federal judge.[4] When the children returned to school, they were met with boycotts, bomb threats, verbal threats, and physical assaults.[5] The Ray home burned down in 1987, and though arson was supposed, investigators never officially determined the cause of the fire.[6] The family moved to Sarasota, and while they were initially met with trepidation from locals, a public education campaign soon quelled those fears.[7] That education campaign by the Sarasota County Public Health Department would become the standard bearer for HIV/AIDS education programs across Florida.[8] In 1992, Ricky's health began to deteriorate and he invited the media into his hospital room to show the public saying, "This is what AIDS is, this is what it does to you."[9] He passed away at age 15. In 2000, middle brother Robert died from AIDS-related complications at age 22.[10] Their father attempted to take his own life but his life was saved by his wife.[11] The Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund Act was passed to make $75 million available to hemophiliacs with HIV and those they passed the virus on to.[12] Youngest brother Randy, now a husband and father, is managing his conditions with medications and continuing his brothers' legacy.[13]

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13 Cox, "Remembering the Rays".

TOM FOGERTY

1941-1990



Musician

Tom Fogerty was born in 1941 in Berkeley, California. As a teenager, he formed his own band and was signed to a label, but they never released a song. After that group dissolved, Tom joined his younger brother John Fogerty to become the fourth member of the Blue Velvets. The Blue Velvets became the Golliwogs became the Visions, but the makeup of the band remained the same, and Tom remained the front man through the mid-1960s.[1] By 1967, John had become the lead singer, something that Tom attributed to his unique voice. The band rebranded to their most recognizable imprint: Creedence Clearwater Revival.[2] The band released many hits over the next 4 years, including “Proud Mary,” “Bad Moon Rising,” and “Fortunate Son.” These songs pioneered the roots rock movement and influenced artists such as Bob Seger, Bruce Springsteen, and John Mellencamp.[4] In 1971, Tom left the band and released several solo albums while CCR continued as a trio for a while longer. In the early 1980s, Fogerty underwent a back surgery where a blood transfusion led to his contracting HIV.[5] He died at the age of 48 in 1990[6] and was inducted posthumously into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 1993 with his brother and former bandmates.[7]

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3 Bob Merlis, “Creedence Clearwater Revival: Hall of Fame Induction Essay,” The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, 1993.
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6 AP, “Tom Fogerty, Guitarist, 48,” The New York Times, September 15, 1990, sec. Obituaries, https://www.nytimes.com/1990/09/15/obituaries/tom-fogerty-guitarist-48.html.
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