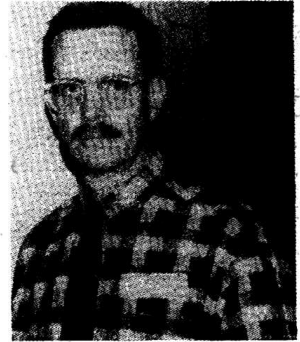


We Mourn - And Remember Our Losses We Act - To Reduce Our Losses

Michael Lynch

Leading gay and AIDS activist Michael Lynch died of AIDS on July 9 at age 46. An activist and poet, teacher and researcher, father and friend, Michael had an extraordinary effect on those who were fortunate enough to know him, and to thousands who never did. Michael was a founding member of AIDS ACTION NOW!, and our first chair. His early articles in *Xtra*, full of passion, rage and humanity, were key to bringing hundreds of people to the founding meeting of AAN! He spoke eloquently at many demonstrations and gatherings, and offered sage advice to many activists struggling to establish policy and strategy. Michael's leadership in AAN! was consistent with his role in many other organizations. He was a founder of both the AIDS Committee of Toronto and the AIDS Memorial. He was a prolific member of the editorial collective of the gay journal *The Body Politic*. He edited the *Modern Language Association Gay Studies Newsletter* for ten years. An influential gay academic, he was founding chair of the

Toronto Centre for Lesbian and Gay Studies. Michael's 1989 book of poetry, *These Waves of Dying Friends*, will stand as one of the most passionate and precise records of this epidemic and the government negligence that accompanies it. Michael is also remembered as a compassionate and vibrant friend, father and comrade. From his centrefold in *Mandate* to his elaborate dinner parties to his undivided attention in conversation, his influence brightened many lives.



David Brian Kendall

Dave Kendall died suddenly and peacefully at Casey House on the morning of July 31, 1991.

An accountant by profession - and temperament - Dave lived the final year of his life as an activist and community leader in Toronto. He will be remembered by all who worked with him for his contributions to AIDS Action Now!, the Toronto PWA Foundation, the Names

candidate in B.C. provincial elections, and he served as President of the federal Liberal Party riding association in Kamloops during the latter part of the Trudeau era - surely a lost cause if there ever was one. Dave also sat on the Board of Directors of the community college in Kamloops before moving to Ontario in 1986.

Above all else, Dave was to me a friend, a lover and a partner. He was kind, supportive, intelligent, passionate and gentle. He loved to talk and to debate the issues of the day. He had an amazing capacity to remain informed and informative, again mostly because he cared. I cannot overestimate my gratitude to AIDS ACTION NOW! and the Toronto PWA Foundation, both of which provided a home, and friends, in Dave's real time of need. Even while in hospital near the end of his life, the work he did on behalf of both organizations enlivened Dave. His friends and his tasks provided both hope and purpose. Dave had the love of both my family and his own, each of which were supporting and caring to the end of his struggle. He said shortly before he died that he could die in peace because he had learned to love and be loved. I like to think that all of us who knew Dave will feel that love long beyond his passing.

I don't know how else to end other than to say goodbye to Dave and to thank him for being there. And so, Dave, with all my love and admiration, and that of your friends, colleagues and our families, thank you and goodbye. (December 16, 1956 - July 31, 1991)

by Mark Freamo



Project and the Ontario Advocacy Coalition.

No challenge was too daunting to Dave, even when it became clear that his health would not sustain the effort required to contribute effectively to various causes. But it was the effort itself, and the commitment which accompanied the effort, which was important to him; if he could not exhibit leadership in matters so vital to his survival, why should others have to do it for him? He loathed the notion of being considered a victim or martyr.

Dave's experience in community concerns was not borne solely of his illness. He was elected as a school trustee in his hometown of Kamloops, B.C., at the age of twenty. In all, he served on the school board there for seven years, including one as Chair. He twice was a

Peter McGehee

Peter McGehee - novelist, singer, songwriter and good-time gal extraordinaire - died at his home of complications arising from AIDS on September 13, 1991. At a benefit reading for AIDS ACTION NOW!, one editor described Peter's first novel, *Boys Like Us*, as "cultural activism." Chronicling contemporary gay life in Toronto, it weaves the themes of romance, friendship, sex and AIDS through bittersweet situations and sparkling dialogue. A huge critical and popular success, *Boys Like Us* has been followed by *The L.Q. Zoo*, a recently published collection of short stories. As one of *The Quinlan Sisters* and, later, *The Fabulous Sirs*, Peter toured the country with his sophisticated and gay brand of a cappella jazz, inducing laughter and delight with such tunes as "Big Dyke" and "Godzilla." "Lost," his song about the AIDS Quilt, is a personal response to grief, but it could well serve as an anthem for all of us who have lost a lover or friend. Peter was a vocal and active supporter of AIDS ACTION NOW!,

bringing his sense of humour and outrage to many a demo. He requested that any donations made in his name be forwarded to AAN! and other AIDS activist organizations. He is survived by his lover and longtime companion Doug Wilson, as well as many devoted friends. Peter was truly unique and irreplaceable; already he is sorely missed.

by Michael Achtman

