

News

Frank Broderick lost to AIDS

Au Courant co-founder and editor Frank Broderick, following a long and difficult struggle with AIDS, succumbed to the disease on Monday, Feb. 9. He was 39 years old.

Frank was born on April 15, 1954, at Fitzgerald Mercy Hospital in Darby, Pennsylvania. He was raised by his parents in Havertown, Pennsylvania and attended Penn State University in 1972, where he majored in journalism. He graduated with his bachelor's degree in 1976.

Frank was a quiet, witty gentleman of few spoken words. Those who met him were often surprised, actually, by just how little Frank said. His writing, however, was his greatest attribute, and it was clear to his readers that when Frank wasn't talking, he was attentively listening to what was going on around him, which often made it to print later.

As a journalist and editor, Frank first worked for the Philadelphia *Gay News*, where he served for six and a half years on the editorial staff, and also wrote a weekly social column entitled

"Trash." Later, when he and *Au Courant* co-founders Michael Labance and Joe Youkanavitch started up Philadelphia's first weekly gay newsmagazine, that tradition continued, under its new title "Tidbits."

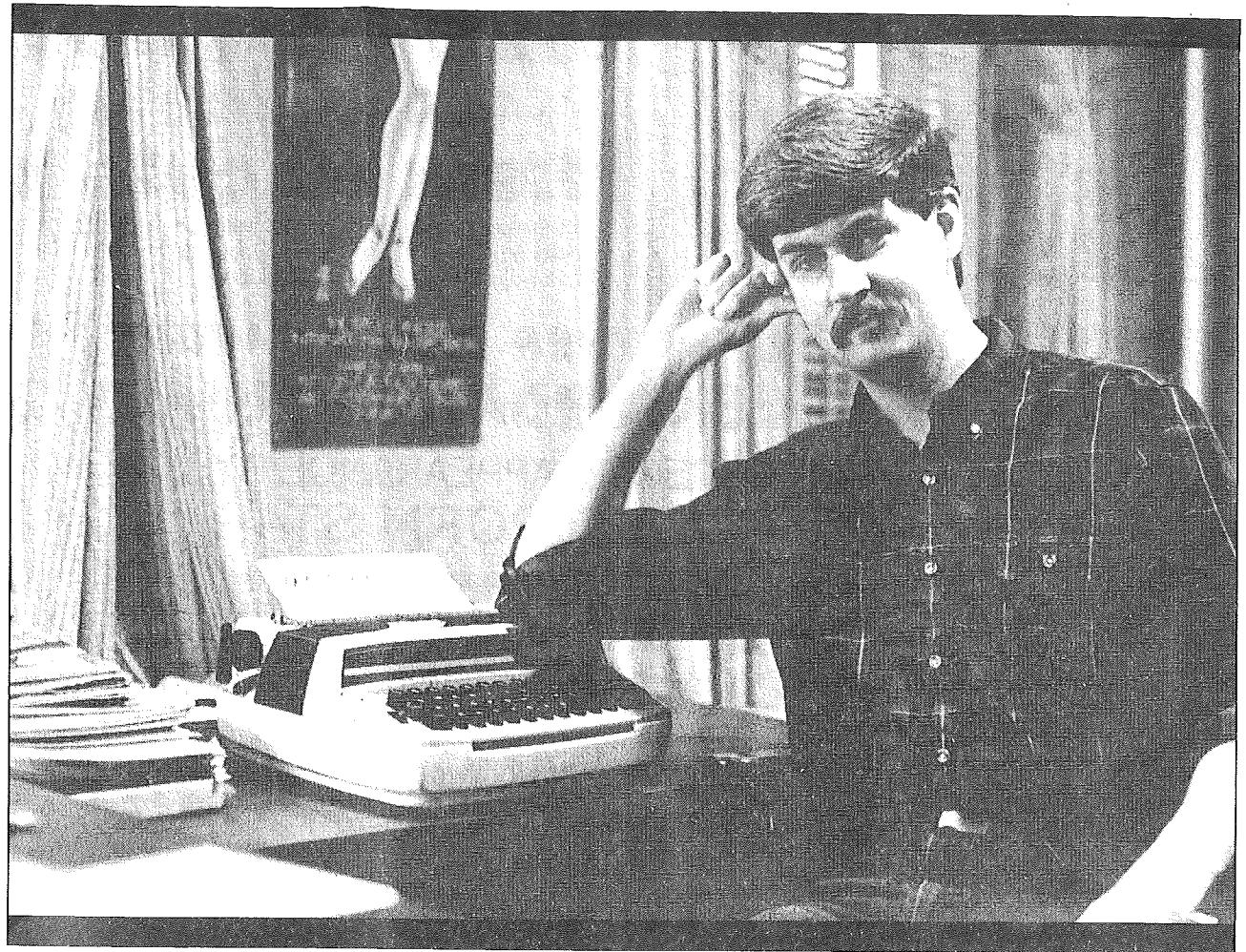
As editor and publisher when *Au Courant* first began publication, Frank adhered to the notion that a newspaper should report on the news, instead of making the news—a point of contention that he had held in his previous position as *PGN's* associate editor, much to his frustration.

Au Courant, in fact, began its life under that same notion, with Frank's direction shaping the editorial content of the city's new newsmagazine.

The newsmagazine's name, a French phrase meaning "current, up-to-date," was also one of Frank's innovations, and has continued to be reflective of the newsmagazine's founding principles.

In its earliest days *Au Courant* was run out of Frank's apartment living room.

Frank first began to experience complications with AIDS in 1991, when he was



▲ Frank Broderick at *Au Courant's* first office space — his living room

first hospitalized with pneumonia. Frank's uphill climb against the disease from that time forward included treatments for multiple opportunistic infections, such as Kaposi's sarcoma, impaired vision from opportunistic infection MAI, and several more bouts with pneumonia.

Frank's most recent hospitalization was his last in a series of episodes with AIDS. Under strain from the advanced progression of his sar-

coma, in combination with a renewed PCP infection, Frank's constitution finally gave way to AIDS, ending a difficult medical complications.

Frank Broderick's absence will indeed be felt throughout the Philadelphia gay and lesbian community.

Frank is survived by his parents Rae and Francis Joseph Broderick of Havertown; his sister Carrie Wood of Upper Darby; brother Da-

niel Broderick of Upper Darby; brother Richard Broderick of Havertown; sister Adele Broderick of Havertown; aunt Jean Town of Drexel Hill; aunt Janet Quatrochi of Longmeadow, Massachusetts; and aunt Catherine Jackson, of Indian Harbor Beach, Florida.

Frank's memorial service will be held at 11 a.m., on Friday, Feb. 12, at the Church of St. Luke and the Epiphany, 220 S. 12th Street in

Philadelphia.

Contributions in Frank's memory may be made to the Metropolitan AIDS Neighborhood Nutrition Alliance (MANNA) at PO Box 30181, Philadelphia, PA 19103; or the Philadelphia Lesbian and Gay Task Force, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102.