

The Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association is an "officially recognized, semi-independent" student organization at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The CGLA is funded by the democratic vote of the Student Congress and through CGLA fundraising activities.

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We welcome your comments, criticisms, and information. If you would like to be part of the staff, call the CGLA office; if no Lambda staff member is available, then we'll return your call.

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WAIN...

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I look up to the stars
With my perfect memory
I look through it all
And my future's no
shock to me
I look down but I see
no tragedy
I look up to my past
A spirit running free
I look down and I'm there
in history
I'm a soul survivor

Wain began his studies at UNC-CH in fall 1981 and continued until he was diagnosed. After his diagnosis in early March of 1987, Wain decided to be open about his having AIDS, without shame or apology. He dedicated the past year and a half to educating the gay and straight communities about the AIDS virus.

Wain also sought simply to be himself, thereby setting what I perceive to be an excellent role model for how people should deal with this disease. Wain never accepted the defeatist terminology of 'patient' or 'victim.' "I am a person living with AIDS," he would tell people. "I am not going to allow myself to be put down by society because of this damned disease." Wain kept his word.

An ardent supporter of lesbian and gay rights and of people with AIDS (PWA's), Wain was the first member of the Carolina Gay and Lesbian Association to be open about his condition. Wain is also the first openly gay CGLA member to die of AIDS.

Wain's friends stuck by him until the end, and his family welcomed their support. Wain's mother, father, stepmother and family friends showed tremendous love for each of us who donated our care and support. Those who had known Wain only in the context of his activism were overwhelmed by the love and generosity which his family showed through the entire experience. Wain may no longer be with us physically, but the bonds which have formed because of him will keep our memories of and love for him alive forever.

We thank you, Wain, for letting us share in your journey on this earth. We wish you good fortune in all your future endeavors. We love you and we will keep your memories forever. Goodbye for now...

--Mark Donahue