



# A Field Trip Down Memory Lane

January 14, 2011 By [Shawn Decker](#)

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Set your DVRs and Tivo for this one- [tonight at 9 PM \(EST\) Anderson Cooper](#) takes a look back at the last 30 years of HIV/AIDS. Included in the special will be comments from Jeanne White, Ryan's mother.

From the Poz Newsfeed: *"It was on June 5, 1981, that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published its first report on what became known as AIDS."*

 The first time I remember hearing about AIDS was a few years later, in the 4th grade. I was likely already HIV positive by then, because I had an outbreak of shingles that covered my left arm and shoulder. There was a school field trip, and I wore a long sleeve button up shirt to cover the embarrassing and painful bumps. The shirt was button-up because putting a sweatshirt or hoodie over my head and shoulders would have hurt too much. I guess missing out on a field day trip was not an option socially at the time.

Positively Yours,  
Shawn

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*My CD, Synthetic Division, A Symptom of Life, is [on iTunes!](#)*

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