Newspaper Article on My Smalltown HIV History

June 16, 2014 By Shawn Decker

Gwenn and I recently spoke with Brad from the Staunton News Leader about our experiences as educators, how we approach sex in our relationship and what it was like testing positive for HIV in 1987 in nearby Waynesboro, Virginia. (Staunton is about 10 miles away from my hometown, and 40 miles from where I currently reside.)

The year was 1987. In hindsight, it's a flash in American history without many watershed moments.

The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles cartoon debuted; the Bangles' "Walk Like an Egyptian" topped the pop music charts; and the Iran-Contra hearings were in full swing. The biggest news was probably "Black Monday" on the stock market — an ever-distant memory with the financial turns that have followed over three decades.

But 1987 is a year that Shawn Decker of Waynesboro will never forget.

You can read the full article here.

Positively Yours,
Shawn

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