

Media/Interview Questions for Susan Lee Mintz

These questions have been prepared in advance for media usage while interviewing Ms. Mintz. However, additional questions may be asked during your conversations.

1. Did you know in 5th grade when you met Jeffrey that you were going to become best friends and that you knew you had found your soul mate?
2. Was he your first love or was it just friendship between two kids from the small upstate town of Troy, New York?
3. What were the circumstances that caused you to get pregnant and married?
4. Would you have gotten an abortion if it was legal in 1968?
5. After your marriage in January 1969, why did you stay married?
6. How did your parents feel about this marriage, your pregnancy, and did they know each other?
7. Did you know before you got married that Jeffrey was a bi-sexual and how did you find out?
8. What did your friends think and did they know the circumstances regarding this hasty marriage and the miscarriage?
9. Was he promiscuous during your 2 years in Albany where he was going for his Master's degree in educational psychology?
10. Did his promiscuous behavior with men continue in Gainesville while he was pursuing his doctorate?
11. Did you know his partners?
12. Once you moved to Houston and he settled into his successful career, how did you continue to handle his affairs and who could you talk to regarding this?
13. When you heard about AIDS in 1981, was that the time you stopped having a sexual relationship with Jeffrey?
14. How was your sexual life before AIDS and did you contract other sexually transmitted diseases from him over the years?
15. How did Jeffrey handle this decision and how did it change your marriage?
16. How did your faith become your stronghold during these years and was that what kept you going?
17. Why didn't you get a divorce or at least leave him? Why didn't he?
18. Why didn't you have any children and is it true that you had your tubes tied when you were 30 years old in Houston?

19. How did his family, friends, and business colleagues handle his AIDS diagnosis and was your support system intact?
20. Did people judge or leave you?
21. Did this come as a complete shock to everyone because no one, not even his beloved parents suspected that he was bi-sexual?
22. Do you know who Jeffrey might have contracted this virus from?
23. What were the circumstances that caused Jeffrey to decide to take his life into his own hands and not go back into the hospital, take his medications, and spend the next three months starving himself to death?
24. Did you ever consider taking your own life after his death because you were so distraught and didn't want to go on?
25. And how did writing help you to cope with this horrific time in your life?