

11-13-88

Dear Lou,

I think of you often when I look at that picture. Your mother was so kind to bring to my hospital room for you. Now my mother wants me to start a slip of it for her. So I just went in and took four small and odd things and put them in an extra urine sample cup. We'll see if they will notice on the floor right under the plant which is doing just great. The bromeliad is also growing 3 new side shoots. So maybe I can get them to bloom again.

I am up and walking on my own no walker or cane! It is not very graceful or like the "Monica Mask" of Halloween. The wheelchair has been folded in the ~~corner~~ corner. Plus I had the catheter out for several weeks to see if I could get control again. I was doing better and better, then I could not get the whole thing too well especially at night. So I have put it in again and will try again later.

When I walked into the Doctor's clinic at the hospital they were ~~so~~ properly amazed. The Doc. himself was truly shocked. When on the 29th I go to see the Head of Rehabilitation, Dr. Gustav A. I should be much more coordinated and normal. So then I hope he will let me go back to work.

Last Sunday we woke up to a snow covered ground! God, how I hate winter! But few employees will know an AIDS patient who is ~~early~~ 50 years old. So I feel confined to stay here..

Next week end. I will try to go for a weekend conference put on by the Milwaukee AIDS Project at the Green Lake Baptist Conference Center 100 miles away. That should be a good test of my abilities.

I think of you so often and send my love to you. Hang in there! We'll both come out of this OK. a few years from now. Do get the October issue of Scientific American. It is all about AIDS. Very good.

Love & <sup>+</sup> Alynn, W. Hess