

## Robert Joel Crane

Robert Joel Crane of Livonia died on February 27 of complications of AIDS. He was 45.

Crane was born in Detroit on January 5, 1946, and lived all of his life in the Detroit area. After graduating from Detroit's Cody High school, he attended Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Art Education. After earning his degree, he began working as an elementary art teacher in the Southfield Public Schools, a position he held until his illness forced him cut back on his activities.

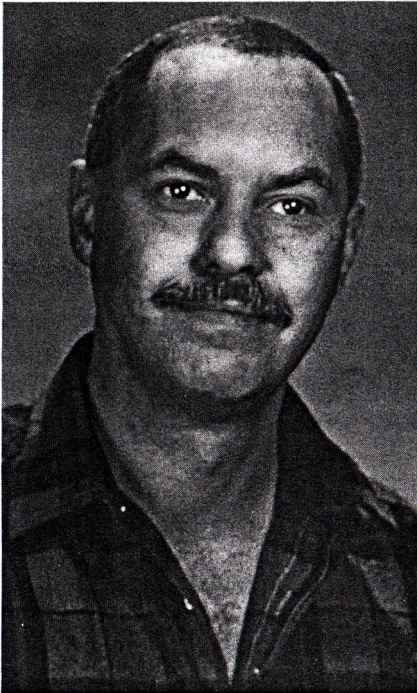
A familiar face at Gigi's, he had been active in several organizations within the community. In his younger days, he would occasionally perform as a female impersonator. He often said that his favorite drag number was "Ain't No Mountain High Enough" by the Supremes.

Crane had a penchant for collecting

stray animals and liked to work in stained glass. His art was more for his own relaxation and expression than for profit, as he gave most of his creations away.

Memorial services were held on Sunday, March 3 at the Harris Funeral Home in Livonia with the Reverend James Beatty of the Agape Community Church officiating.

Crane is survived by his lover of over ten years, James Anderson, his parents, one uncle and many friends and co-workers. His friends suggest that donations be made to AIDS Research programs.



*Robert Joel Crane*