

SOUTHERN COMFORT

Robert Eads was born a genetic female. After undergoing a difficult medical procedure to become a man, Robert was diagnosed with cancer of the cervix, ovaries, and uterus. "The last part of me that is female is killing me," he says dryly. Robert is the subject of *Southern Comfort*, a documentary produced, directed, edited, and photographed by Kate Davis with a grant from the **Soros Documentary Fund**, which won the Grand Jury Prize in the documentary competition at the 2001 Sundance Film Festival. Framed by the final seasons of Robert's life, the film explores questions of identity, family, and friendship through Robert's relationship with his small group of transgendered friends, whom he terms his "chosen family."

Robert (r) and his lover, Lola (l).



Cas, one of Robert's transgendered friends.