

Section One of Tuesdays with Morrie: "The Curriculum"

The MAIN CHARACTERS:



MITCH ALBOM (right) is a 30-something sports writer and graduate of Brandeis University.

While he always wanted to be a jazz musician, Mitch instead leads the fast-paced life of a sports journalist, enjoying the success and adventure of being very good at what he does.

TED KOPPEL -- One of the most famous living television interviewers, Koppel conducts three interviews with Morrie for the news show "Nightline." He is surprised when Morrie asks him personal questions just after they have met, though he immediately seems to like Morrie, and eventually grows to call him a friend. He is moved almost to tears during his last interview with Morrie, having deconstructed what Morrie had called his "narcissistic" television personality.

PETER- Mitch's younger brother who lives in Spain. Peter flies to various European cities seeking treatment for his pancreatic cancer, though he refuses any help from his family, who he has for the most part estranged himself from. He is reluctant when Mitch first tries to reestablish a relationship with him, but eventually warms.

MORRIE SCHWARTZ (left) is a 70-something former professor of Mitch's, recently diagnosed with ALS. Despite the terminal nature of his condition, he insists on living out each day to its fullest instead of just dying quietly.

CHARLOTTE - Morrie's caring wife, who, at his insistence, keeps her job as a professor at M.I.T. throughout Morrie's illness.

JANINE - Mitch's patient wife who willingly takes a phone call from Morrie, whom she has never met, and insists upon joining Mitch on his next Tuesday visit. Although she usually does not sing upon request, she does for Morrie, and moves him to tears with her beautiful voice.