

Richard Meisler Obituary - Ann Arbor, MI | Ann Arbor News



Meisler, Richard
3/3/1940 - 2/21/2017
Ann Arbor, MI
Richard (Dick)
Meisler, 76, of Ann
Arbor, MI, died on
Tuesday, February
21, after
complications from
cancer surgery. Dick
was born in New
York City, the oldest
son of Simon and
Rose Meisler. After
attending the Bronx
High School of
Science and Antioch
College, he received

his Ph.D in Philosophy from Columbia University. His teaching career included Antioch College, Buffalo State University, and the departments of English and American Culture at the University of Michigan. For several years he stayed at home raising his two sons. Dick was a beloved teacher and colleague who enjoyed a wide network of friends and family. His interests and vision spanned a broad range of cultural and social issues. At the time of his death, he was fully engaged with his courses on AIDS, poverty, immigration and mass incarceration. Colleagues describe him as kind, open-hearted, insightful, and generous with his time and caring. Many students consider him an important influence on their lives. His MOOC on HIV/AIDS is

available at coursera.org/learn/aids-fear-hope and a new MOOC on mass incarceration is forthcoming. His book "Trying Freedom: The Case for Liberating Education" was published by Harcourt Brace in 1984. Dick was preceded in death by his parents and his brother Arthur. He is survived by his wife Miriam; his sons Joshua (Tobi Hollander), and Daniel (Laura); his beloved granddaughters Sylvia, Rosie, Sadie and Paula; sisters-in-law Susan Meisler, Susan Horowitz, and Rey and Gabrielle Horowitz-Prisco; brother-in-law Mark Horowitz; nephews Saul, Jason, Joseph and Bennett; nieces Sarah and Becca; and a large circle of devoted family and friends. The family will be receiving visitors at home on Sunday, February 26 from 2 to 6 p.m. A memorial event will be hosted by the U-M Department of American Culture later this spring, with details to be announced in this space. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Youth Arts Alliance, a local organization for incarcerated youth; website youthartsalliance.com