LES WIEDER

January 17, 1943 — August 21, 2024



The only son of Hungarian immigrants James and Hilda Wieder, Les was born in New Britain, Connecticut. He attended LA Valley College and received a BA in Theatre Arts and an MA in Fine and Theatre Arts from Cal State Northridge.

His 40 year career included working in the music industry, theatre and television, but his longest stint (28 years) was teaching theatre and television at Moorpark College. He directed more than 72 plays at the college and in Hollywood. He won the LA Ovation award and an NAACP Image award for his play, "Sojourner: The Story of Sojourner Truth"

His play "Voices" premiered in L.A. and was distributed on Tubi streaming service. His fractured fairytale for children, "Zamo," received rave reviews. Les' commitment to civil rights was the

theme in his short film "Do Something" which he co-wrote and produced. The film went on to receive international acclaim.

Les was one of the most inspiring members of the Moorpark faculty, and his classes were filled with eager students. The plays he produced and directed played to sold out audiences. His students were changed for the better, and he maintained relationships with many of them after they graduated. He never stopped teaching, mentoring and guiding. Les won an NCAAP President's Award for his dedication to diversity by "blind casting" for his plays.

In 1980, the love of his life appeared. Tyree and Les are admired and envied for their enduring, loving and exemplary marriage. And, when Shavonne was born, Les became an ideal father. Les and Tyree co-authored a book, "Matzo Balls and Cornbread: A Love Story", which featured their family histories, married life, careers and travels.

The three Wieders loved to travel together and visited destinations around the world. Les enjoyed swimming every day, working on his golf swing, playing Bocce ball and spending time with Tyree's family. He loved telling stories, a good cigar and a dry martini.

Besides his beloved wife Tyree and adored daughter Shavonne, Les has a host of cousins, nieces, nephews and friends who were blessed to have him in their lives and who will dearly miss him.