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Santa Cruz poet Morton Marcus lived a life 'devoted to excellence'

Full story: [Santa Cruz Sentinel](#)

Morton Marcus, one of Santa Cruz's most prominent literary figures, died Wednesday at his home in Santa Cruz after a long battle with renal cancer.

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Comments

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valerie marcus ramshur <i>North Bergen, NJ</i>	<i>Oct 29, 2009</i>	#1 Judge it! Report Abuse Reply >>
Mr. Baine, thank you for you kind and lovely article on my father. An extraordinary man to be sure, a man of many gifts and blessings. One of his great blessings was to have a family that was and is totally devoted him. Please note, he is survived by more than you listed above. He is also survived by his son Nick Galli, his grandson Zachary Marcus Ramshur, Hls daughter in law- Amy Scott and his son in law, Steve Ramshur. Thank you again.		
Santa Cruz Native <i>Kiev, Ukraine</i>	<i>Oct 29, 2009</i>	#2 Judge it! Report Abuse Reply >>
A very nice article that sums up Mort's life very well. It was a great pleasure to know him and to have shared many moments with him. He had a generous spirit and an open-heart that cannot be equaled. I owe my introduction to literature to him and wish him well now wherever he goes. He always supported literature and had a huge family of writers. Many of us are like his spiritual children of literature. He certainly touched my soul in a wonderful and positive way. Thanks, Mort. Mark Taylor		
Downtown and Around <i>Santa Cruz, CA</i>	<i>Oct 29, 2009</i>	#3 Judge it! Report Abuse Reply >>
I'm so sorry to hear this. He was a lovely person, a great part of our community.		
Graydog <i>Alameda, CA</i>	<i>Oct 29, 2009</i>	#4 Judge it! Report Abuse Reply >>
Morton was, without a doubt, one of the greatest human beings in our communal history.		
Rocket J Squirrel <i>Santa Cruz, CA</i>	<i>Oct 29, 2009</i>	#5 Judge it! Report Abuse Reply >>
You never realize how much you'll miss them until they're gone. Thanks for all of the hours listening to you from public talks to private dinners with friends over the hill. Enjoy the rest while you can...		
John	<i>Oct 29, 2009</i>	#6 Judge it! Report Abuse Reply >>

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48°F Hi: 66°F Feels like: 51°F
 Lo: 43°F Visibility: 5 mi
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SANTA CRUZ SENTINEL POLL

WORLD NEWS created by: [Topix Pollster](#) | May 15, 2008

101,626 votes

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Click on an option to vote

- 1 year
- 2 years
- 5 years
- 10 years
- 20 years
- 50 years
- 100+ years

11,432 comments

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Santa Cruz, CA
RIP Uncle Morty. You are an inspiration.

Inspiring
Aptos, CA
Oct 29, 2009 #7 | 🗳️ Judge it! | Report Abuse | Reply »
Mort Marcus will be dearly missed. What an inspirational speaker, thinker and writer. Truly a life well-lived! Love and condolences to his family.

Susan Myer Silton
Santa Cruz, CA
Oct 29, 2009 #8 | 🗳️ Judge it! | Report Abuse | Reply »
"A heart is not judged by how much you love; but by how much you are loved by others."
The others are a family that Morton Marcus kept very close and a community that will deeply feel the loss of his presence.
He will continue to give to us in the legacy of his words, the students he nurtured, and his children, to whom he bequeathed his enormous talent and who, in turn, have blessed the world with their artistry.
(The quote is from "The Wizard of Oz," which Morton Marcus's very gifted daughter, Jana, photographed for Cabrillo Stage this summer.)

Myrna Benson
Santa Cruz, CA
Oct 29, 2009 #9 | 🗳️ Judge it! | Report Abuse | Reply »
In the '70s I took Mort's UC Ext classes when he was bringing in all the writers and poets. It was a life-changing experience for me. He taught me what makes poetry real, and what makes life real. I cherish all the books and the memories. My sympathies to his family. I wish he could have lived longer, to continue sharing himself with all of us.

Juan
San Francisco, CA
Oct 29, 2009 #10 | 🗳️ Judge it! | Report Abuse | Reply »
My condolences to his family and friends. I enjoyed seeing his film reviews on local TV. He will be missed.

Jeff H
San Francisco, CA
Oct 29, 2009 #11 | 🗳️ Judge it! | Report Abuse | Reply »
Judged: 😞 5 🔥 2 ✅ 1
I had Morton for English at Cabrillo College...with all due respect, he was probably one of the most arrogant, haughty individuals I've ever met. I would rather have spent time with my dentist than during his office hours.
However, my condolences.

John
San Francisco, CA
Oct 29, 2009 #12 | 🗳️ Judge it! | Report Abuse | Reply »
I enjoyed his class on the history of science fiction movies quite a bit when I took it in 1985 at Cabrillo. Mort was cool, and he will be missed.
-John

Santa Cruz Native
Kiev, Ukraine
Oct 30, 2009 #13 | 🗳️ Judge it! | Report Abuse | Reply »
“ **Jeff H wrote:**
*I had Morton for English at Cabrillo College...with all due respect, he was probably one of the most arrogant, haughty individuals I've ever met. I would rather have spent time with my dentist than during his office hours.
However, my condolences.*
Comments like this only prove that you cannot make everybody happy. Better to keep it to yourself. You have your opinion. Frankly, nobody else wants to hear it. Maybe that's why you're complaining in this forum. I would be happy if only one person complained about me after I die.

Morton J Marcus
Indianapolis, IN
Jan 4, 2010 #14 | 🗳️ Judge it! | Report Abuse | Reply »
I am the other Morton J. Marcus, born in NYC in 1938, an economist living in Indianapolis. Sometimes Mort and I were confused by people searching for one of us. There was no reason for that confusion. I am an economist who enjoys a statewide reputation that will vanish quickly. Mort was a poet of boundless and timeless reputation. We never met, but we did have one delightful telephone conversation to compare experiences.

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