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It is with the heaviest of hearts that we share that Gil Cates, founder and Producing Director of the Geffen Playhouse died on Monday, Oct 31 at age 77.

Gil was many things to many people throughout the entertainment industry – to the Oscars, one of their longest running producers; to the DGA, their longtime president and chief negotiator; to UCLA, the founder of their school of Theater, Film and Television; and to the Geffen Playhouse, he was our founder, our leader and our heart.

“Gil has always referred to the staff of the Geffen Playhouse as his second family” said Geffen Playhouse Chairman of the Board Frank Mancuso. “And it is as a family that we mourn this tremendous loss. Gil built this theater and he will forever be at the center of it – we honor his life by continuing the fulfillment of his dream. As my dear friend Gil would no doubt say ‘onward and upward with the arts.’”

The theater has no further information in regards to memorial or burial services at this time.

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