

# MICHAEL WESTCOTT, IDSA

(1958–2014)

President, Design Management Institute



It seems to me like only yesterday that Michael Westcott was the IDSA Student Merit winner from Syracuse. We met as young design students on the north campus of the University of Michigan, my school, where the IDSA Central District conference was being held. From that moment until, well, even now, I was forever impressed by him and his talent.

When he left us this past fall, the world of design lost an inspired leader and a passionate champion of design. Michael passed away on October 4, 2014, after being diagnosed with ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis).

Michael had great vision and was an excellent designer and thinker. He was also a wonderful friend. Although he had many priorities, education was of great importance to him. He started the DMI futurEd program and was dedicated to bringing education leaders to DMI professional conferences. His wish was to continue this further with the Michael Westcott Education Fund: [www.dmi.org/MWestcottDesignEducationFund](http://www.dmi.org/MWestcottDesignEducationFund).

IDSA remembers Michael Westcott.

—Mark Dziarski, FIDSA