



RON DENHARDT

(1943-2021)

On March 3rd, 2021 Ron Denhardt – CIMC teacher, sangha member, and dear friend – passed away. For decades, Ron was an exceptional and integral presence at CIMC. His generosity and spirit are woven into the fabric and foundation of the Center. Ron supported countless people at the Center, in big and small ways, as a teacher and as an encouraging and tireless spiritual friend. We miss him.

Ron's last teaching, *Opening to Our Vulnerability and Limits*, was offered in CIMC's March newsletter just two days before his death. We are happy to share it once again, along with other his other recent words of wisdom.

Writings

- [Opening to Our Vulnerability and Limits](#)
- [Present Moment. Only Moment. Peace. Calm.](#)
- [Inner Peace and Harmony with the World](#)
- [Opening Our Hearts](#)

Talks

- [A Guided Meditation by Ron Denhardt](#)
- [CIMC Wednesday Evening Dharma Talks](#)

Tributes to Ron Denhardt

When I woke up this morning my first thought was: A world without Ron in it? How strange. Ron has been an integral part of the Center for so long that it is hard to imagine. I will miss his humble and grateful heart and his enthusiasm and dedication to the Dharma. The tender care he took with his students and his willingness to go deeply into what matters most in a life – love and wisdom – makes his absence all the more poignant. I am confident that his is a life that will continue to ripple out in beautiful and beneficial ways. With palms pressed together I bow: To Ron, my friend, student, and colleague.

~ Narayan Helen Liebenson, CIMC Guiding Teacher

I often found Ron sitting on the couch in the Reclining Buddha Room, surrounded by people eager to hear him talk about the Dharma, or the teachers who were inspiring him, or the questions that were engaging him. When I saw him there, I sat right down, enveloped by his warmth and smile and calm. And I always came away with a Dharma gem, useful guidance, or a probing question to ponder.

I love the title of one of the recent programs Ron taught at CIMC: *The Art of Living in Peace and Freedom in the Here and Now*. This was Ron's own timeless endeavor, and this is what he encouraged in each of us who were lucky enough to know him. I'll miss him.

~ Lynn Whitemore, CIMC Executive Director

Ron was a dear dharma buddy. I was always touched by his expansive, loving heart, and how I always felt welcomed and embraced by his gentle openness. We bonded over starting the Elder Drop-in group which led to many discussions about dealing with aging, diminishment, and death. He was an inspiration in how he talked about the dharma, so devoted, always exploring, deepening.

How poignant that his last essay for the CIMC newsletter came out the week he died. That piece is a testament to his gifted teaching, the depth and breadth of his knowing, the clarity and compassion that imbued what he wrote. What a beautiful last gift to us all.

Ron had an immensely generous heart. He gave tirelessly of himself to his fellow yogis, offering the gift of his presence, deep caring, and understanding. Ron's light shone brightly, radiant with kindness, wisdom, and compassion – and shines on.

~ Olivia Hoblitzelle, CIMC Teacher
and Elders Sangha Leader

"No matter how great our wisdom, care and love are essential." These were Ron's final words of his teaching in last week's CIMC Newsletter.

Ron was a remarkable human being! He was an insightful teacher, a devoted practitioner, and a spiritual friend to all who had interest in the dharma. Ron's wisdom was clear, deep and practical with a touch of mystery.

Ron embodied the practice. His beautiful heart expressed kindness, generosity, and compassion: Once after Ron offered a Dharma talk, a woman went up to him to say how much she loved what he said. Ron handed her all his notes. She was stunned and joyful. If you were suffering in any way, he would listen deeply, place his hand on his heart, sometimes tears in his eyes, and offer tenderness, caring and love. He could uplift your heart with a silent pause, a few wise words, his engaging smile, or his wonderful laugh.

Ron would talk dharma with anyone, anywhere: while sitting, standing, walking, lying down. Ron would drive to meet you in a coffee shop, or go for a walk with you, or find you in the Reclining Buddha room at CIMC. Even at the end of his life, he would zoom, text, talk on the phone or facetime with so many: family, friends, new acquaintances. In my last conversation with Ron, he shared how grateful he was for this life, for his family, friends, his dharma groups at CIMC, the teachings, the practice and so much more. Ron also spoke about caring for and loving the present moment, about the vastness and pure love that is always available. Thank you, Ron, for your wisdom, care, and love.

~ Madeline Klyne, CIMC Core Teacher