



"They say his father was a comet and his mother a cosmic wind,
that he juggles planets as if they were feathers and wrestles with
black holes just to work up an appetite."

—Mike Resnick, *Santiago*

"It's noble to starve for your principles, but it's chickenshit to
make your wife and children starve for them."

—Mike Resnick, advice to writers



Mike Resnick

(March 5, 1942 – January 9, 2020)

Michael Diamond Resnick was born March 5, 1942 in Chicago IL. He attended the University of Chicago from 1959-61, won 3 letters on the fencing team, majored in absenteeism, and met his wife Carol Cain Resnick. They were married when he was 19 years old. He remained very devoted to her for the rest of his life. They were married for 58 years with Carol as his partner in all things. His daughter, Laura, was born in 1962.

Mike worked as a file clerk in Chicago until 1965, then began to focus on writing and editing; in the '60s and '70s he edited men's magazines and tabloid newspapers. In 1968 Mike and Carol became serious breeders and exhibitors of collies, a pursuit they continued through 1981. During that time they bred and/or exhibited 27 champion collies, and were the country's leading breeders and exhibitors during various years along the way.

Mike was an only child and very close to his father, who died in 2001. His mother died about 20 years before that. He was very interested in the wildlife, geography, cultures, and history of Africa, traveling there several times. He was a lifelong fan of science fiction and fantasy, and a collector of almost everything, from Edgar Rice Burroughs books and old pulp magazines to WorldCon program books and fanzines, theatre playbills, comics, and chess sets. His knowledge of sf and fannish history was almost encyclopedic, and he loved fandom and conventions.

Mike Resnick was a prolific and acclaimed science fiction author, nominated 27 times for Hugo Awards. His five Hugo Award wins were for "Kirinyaga" in 1988, "The Manamouki" in 1990, "Seven Views of Olduvai Gorge" in 1994, "The 43 Antarean Dynasties" in 1997, and "Travels with My Cats" in 2004. He was a finalist for 11 Nebula Awards, winning one for "Seven Views of Olduvai Gorge." In 1995 he received the Skylark Award for Imaginative Fiction with a Lifetime Achievement in Science Fiction.

Mike began editing anthologies with *Alternate Presidents* in 1992, producing many books in collaboration with Martin H. Greenberg, including SF mystery anthologies *Whatdunits* in 1992 and *More Whatdunits* in 1993. He co-edited two *Future Earths* anthologies with Gardner Dozois, both in 1993. Other notable anthologies include *Stars: Original Stories Based on the Songs of Janis Ian* in 2003 (with Janis Ian), *New Voices in Science Fiction* in 2003, *Worldcon Guest of Honor Speeches* in 2006 (with Joe Siclari), and *Red Tide* in 2014.

He edited fiction for Jim Baen's Universe from 2007 to 2010, and began editing *Galaxy's Edge* magazine in 2013, with the best stories from the latter collected in two volumes: *The Best of Galaxy's Edge 2013-2014* and *The Best of Galaxy's Edge 2015-2017*.

As a strong supporter of the Writers of the Future Contest, Mike became a judge in 2010. He received the L. Ron Hubbard Lifetime Achievement Award for Contributions to the Arts in 2017. Mike judged contest entries up through the fourth quarter of 2019.

Mike was diagnosed with aggressive lymphoma in November 2019, and his health declined sharply near the end of that year. In early January, doctors discontinued treatment. He is survived by his wife and their daughter, author Laura Resnick.

Mike lives on through his writings and the memories of those who love him.



The GoFundMe campaign for Mike's final expenses is still accepting donations.
<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-mike-resnick-pay-off-a-neardeath-experience>

Columbus 2020 NASFiC presents
A Memorial to Michael Diamond Resnick

Friday, August 21, 2020

Schedule

6:40 p.m. Welcome Reception

We welcome friends to the memorial. The technical support team will introduce Zoom meeting features which will be used throughout the ceremony.

Arrive early and use Zoom chat to connect with other fans and friends of Mike Resnick.

Photos and videos courtesy of Carol and Laura Resnick, Shahid Mahmud, and John Goodwin.

Montage music: "Ac-Cent-Tchu-Ate The Positive" by Bing Crosby & The Andrews Sisters; "Nice Work if You Can Get It" by The Andrews Sisters; "Take Me to the World" by Stephen Sondheim

7:00 p.m. Ceremony Begins

Opening

Martin L. Shoemaker (Moderator)

Memories of My Father

Laura Resnick

Mike Resnick: A Brief Biography

John Goodwin

Memories of Mike

Lezli Robyn

Nancy Kress

Beth Meacham

Steven H Silver

7:30 p.m. Intermission (8 minutes)

7:38 p.m. Ceremony Resumes

More Memories of Mike

Eric Flint

Sue Francis

Brad R. Torgersen

Cat Rambo

Joe Siclari

Shahid Mahmud

A Toast to Mike Resnick

Martin L. Shoemaker

Attendees are encouraged to have a beverage for the toast.

Community Memories

Share your memories of Mike and his books.

The technical support team will pass the virtual microphone among the attendees.

Closing

Lezli Robyn



For the family: Laura Resnick is Mike's daughter.

From NASFiC: Anne Gray (Programming), Hafidha Acuay (Programming), Rob Stewart (Opening and Closing Ceremonies), Matt Arnold (Website), Alan Bond (Digital Transition), and the Technical Support Team.

Our gratitude for providing this venue and for all your hard work.

Eric Flint and Mike co-edited Jim Baen's Universe magazine, were both judges in the Writers of the Future contest, and co-authored a novel, *The Gods of Sagittarius*.

Sue Francis, Fan Guest of Honor with her husband Steve, contributed greatly to the long-running success of RiverCon in Louisville, Kentucky.

John Goodwin, President of Galaxy Press, has been involved with book publishing since 1986 and currently hosts the Writers & Illustrators of the Future Podcast.

Nancy Kress has been writing SF for four decades and has won six Nebulas, two Hugo Awards, and the Sturgeon award for her fiction.

Shahid Mahmud set up a small publishing company in 2006 and worked with Mike on a number of projects, including the Stellar Guild books, the Sail to Success writers' workshops, and *Galaxy's Edge* magazine.

Beth Meacham is an Executive Editor at Tor Books. She edited Mike in the 80s and early 90s.

Cat Rambo, writer and former SFWA President, collaborated with Mike on the short story, "The Mermaid Club."

Lezli Robyn is the Assistant Publisher of Arc Manor and the Editor of *Galaxy's Edge* magazine. She collaborated with Mike on five short stories.

Martin L. Shoemaker is the Assistant Editor of *Galaxy's Edge* magazine.

Joe Siclari is a smof and a fan historian, and founder of *Fanac.org*. He co-edited *Worldcon Guest of Honor Speeches* with Mike in 2006, and received the Big Heart Award in 2016 along with his wife, Edie Stern.

Steven H Silver attended his first convention in 1986, where he met Mike. Over the years, they became friends and colleagues, with Steven publishing three of Mike's books and some articles in fanzines, and Mike publishing one of Steven's stories.

Brad R. Torgersen is a multi-award-winning writer and Mike's Writer Son.