

IN MEMORIAM

Anselm Strauss and Matthew Miles

This fall two pioneers of qualitative research in the social sciences have passed away - Anselm Strauss and Matthew Miles.

Anselm Straus wrote together with Glaser in 1976 in sociology the first general book in the field - "The discovery of grounded theory: Strategies for qualitative research". Mathew Miles wrote together with Huberman in 1984 in education "Qualitative data analysis: A sourcebook of new methods". They contributed to shaping a new approach to research in the social sciences, not only through their writing, but as the open, warm and social persons they were. Below we bring some brief obituaries.

Anselm Strauss, the founder of the Grounded Theory approach, died on Thursday September 5th - 3 months before his eightieth's birthday. As I have been told, he was living and working up to the very end. I would like to express my deepest regret to his wife Francis Strauss, and to his friends, colleagues, and those who knew him and his ideas. His ideas and conceptions to viewing and handling qualitative data also had a significant impact on my own work and I would like to express my gratitude.

- Thomas Muhr

It is with great sadness that I write to inform you of the death of *Matt Miles*. Matt knew of his illness for only a short time before he died on Thursday 24th October. Matt would have been 70 years on November 3rd. Miles, who studied innovation in education, was himself an innovator whose seminal work on group dynamics, organizational development, school reform, qualitative data analysis, and what he called the "social architecture" of schools helped define educational research in the United States and Europe for more than forty years. For myself, I must say that Matt was a friend unlike any other. Working, he was a partner in a very special and unusual sense of the word, as those of you who have collaborated with him will know. He created an atmosphere of energy, excitement, and creativity, one in which the hardest work was always the greatest fun. He was unimaginably generous, sweet, and loving. I will miss him profoundly.

- Eben A. Weitzman

I was deeply saddened to hear the news about *Matt Miles*. He was a human being who made a difference in all of our lives, especially for those of us who develop and use software for qualitative data analysis. I think that Eben's eloquent statement pretty much says it all. I find it sad and ironic that two of the most important people involved in making sense of, and disseminating information about, software for qualitative data analysis, Matt and Renata Tesch, did so at the end of long and distinguished careers. Thank you Matt for the contributions, service, and guidance you provided, not only in regard to qualitative data analysis software, but all the other areas in which you worked.

- John Seidel