ST. PAUL, Minn. & WASHINGTON — The Center for Victims of Torture™ (CVT) issued this statement at the sad news of the loss of Milton Glaser.

“We at the Center for Victims of Torture learned with great sadness of the death of the legendary Milton Glaser, renowned graphic designer and stalwart advocate for human rights. His commitment to action in the face of oppression and his creativity in finding ways to influence change were an inspiration. He was a friend to CVT, and a key advisor particularly on questions about bringing awareness to human rights issues. As the world well knows, he was brilliant at distilling the essence of a complex problem and illustrating a solution in a way that caught the eye and touched the heart.

“A master at bringing elegance and simplicity to even the darkest of human rights violations – things as ugly as torture – Milton Glaser believed in the capacity of all human beings to make change happen.

“In recent years, he met with CVT staff to discuss possibilities for collaboration on materials and events, and though we did not get the chance to finalize those plans, we learned a great deal from him about connecting with and educating people about difficult topics in simple and meaningful ways. After a conversation I had with him about the work of CVT, he drafted a simple drawing with the words Torture Doesn’t Work, rendered in black and red like a heart broken by persecution and cruelty. A reminder that the worst aspects of human behavior do exist, and that each of us has a role in fighting them.

“We will miss his creativity and his counsel. We are forever grateful for his generosity, his brilliance, and his unwavering belief in the power of art to change the world.” —Curt Goering, CVT executive director

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