Bernice W. Kliman died on November 29 at the age of 78 from a rare form of cancer. She received her Ph.D. in 1969 from the City University of New York Graduate Center in English literature, and taught at Baruch College, Queens College, and Yale University; she secured a full-time position at Nassau Community College, where she taught until her retirement in 1999. She was awarded several fellowships at the Folger Shakespeare Library and spent considerable time at her research there.

She and the late Kenneth S. Rothwell pioneered the study of Shakespeare on film, and in 1976 they launched Shakespeare on Film Newsletter, which in 1992 became part of Shakespeare Bulletin. She created and headed the editorial team of the MLA New Variorum Hamlet project. The online version of this became the textual basis of her websiteHamletworks.org, on which she led her team of New Variorum editors. This site remains the only comprehensive (and infinitely expandable) online variorum of any of Shakespeare’s plays.

Professor Kliman’s was the author of Hamlet: Film, Television, and Audio Performance and Macbeth in Performance; Latin American Shakespeares; and Approaches to Teaching Shakespeare's Hamlet. She also co-edited the New Kittredge Romeo and Juliet and Measure for Measure with Laury Magnus, and the New Kittredge Hamlet with James Lake, and she published numerous articles, including one that appeared in the latest issue of Shakespeare Quarterly, “At Sea about Hamlet at Sea.”

She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Merwin Kliman; their sons, Harvey, Arthur, Lincoln, and Dave; and five grandchildren, Laura, Rachel, Michelle, Sabrina, and Daniel.