



Shih- Pau Yen

June 10, 1940 - December 25, 2025

Shih-Pau Yen, known to many simply as "Yen", passed away peacefully on December 25, 2025, with his family by his side. He lived a life marked by dedication, leadership, and deep love for his family and community.

Yen earned a Bachelor of Science from Taiwan Provincial Chung Hsing University in 1963. In 1964, he came to the United States to continue his education at the University of Minnesota, where he studied statistics. He received his Master of Science in Statistics in 1969, beginning a lifelong connection with the University.

Following graduation, Yen joined the University of Minnesota as a staff member at the University Computer Center. Over the years, he held several leadership roles and ultimately became the Deputy CIO in the Office of Information Technology. He devoted his career to supporting the University's academic mission and worked there until his retirement in 2008.

During his tenure, Yen played a pivotal role in advancing technology across the University. He contributed to the introduction of campus-wide email, wireless networks, campus-wide software licensing, the establishment of the University Digital Media Center, and the creation of student computer labs. Through his leadership and vision, the University of Minnesota became one of the first major universities to adopt email. He also led the successful effort to

secure a landmark agreement with Apple, providing the University with workstations at deeply discounted prices. In recognition of his achievements, then-University President Mark Yudof presented Yen with the President's Award for Outstanding Service.

Beyond his professional life, Yen was a highly respected and active leader within the Twin Cities Chinese community. He was well known across many Chinese associations and played an important role in bringing people together. His charismatic and influential personality was a defining part of his leadership, and he was admired for his ability to connect with others and inspire those around him.

In 2011, Yen suffered a stroke that took away his speech and mobility. True to his personality, he worked extremely hard in rehabilitation and was eventually able to walk again, even though his speech never returned. His determination and perseverance during these years left a deep impression on those who knew him.

Yen found joy in many simple pleasures. He loved cooking and sharing meals, tending to his garden, practicing tai chi, spending time with friends, and, most of all, being with his children and grandchildren.

Yen is survived by his wife, Iness Yen; his son, Dahren Yen (Keely Rubash); his daughter, Sulan Nichols (Dan Nichols); and his two grandsons, Max and Kai Nichols who were a constant source of pride and happiness in his life. He will be remembered as a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, a respected professional, a community leader, and a man whose presence, kindness, and strength touched many lives.

In lieu of flowers please donate to the Minnesota Stroke Association or St Rose of Lima Church.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 16. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Saint Rose of Lima Catholic Church
2048 Hamline Avenue North
Roseville, MN 55113

Church Service

JAN 16. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Saint Rose of Lima Catholic Church
2048 Hamline Avenue North
Roseville, MN 55113

Reception

JAN 16. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Saint Rose of Lima Catholic Church
2048 Hamline Avenue North
Roseville, MN 55113

Graveside Service

JAN 16. 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Lakewood Cemetery (Minneapolis)
3600 Hennepin Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Tribute Wall

CG

“ Christina G. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Shih- Pau Yen.



Christina G. - January 16 at 10:50 AM

WL

“ 4 files added to the album Tribute Eall



wenso lo - January 16 at 03:29 AM

WL

“ 8 files added to the album ????



Wenso Lo - January 10 at 01:20 PM

NH

“ Yen was the Chair of the Class in our Guo Yu Shi Xiao (Elementary School) in Taipei. He was a personable and responsible leader. Thanks to Covid19, some of our classmates, including yen, re-connected through Zoom meetings periodically. Yen, we will miss you terribly and may you rest in peace. Attaching a group picture of our field trip during 5th grade to Zhi Nan Gong (指南宮 outside of Taipei) in 1951. Yen is in the middle of front row with a circle.



Nancy Yu Hwang - January 05 at 11:20 PM