



Guobin "Mark" Ren

September 12, 1944 - July 4, 2016

Guobin "Mark" Ren, 71, of Corvallis, died at Samaritan Evergreen Hospice House on Monday, July 4, 2016.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 11:00 AM Tuesday, July 12th at McHenry Funeral Home with a reception to follow.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUL 12. 11:00 AM (PT)

McHenry Funeral Home
206 NW 5th St.
Corvallis, OR

Tribute Wall

SH

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Shannon - July 14, 2018 at 02:37 PM

SH

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My experience with Professor Ren's classes was so positive that I ended up minoring in Asian Language (with Chinese focus) when I completed my bachelor's degree at OSU. I have memories of every class I had with him preserved because he would always take pictures of us all together at the end of each quarter and send them to us. He made a point of keeping in touch, and he used to send lovely animated Chinese New Year cards. Occasionally he and I would have short visits during his office hours, or he would pass on information to me about new scholarship opportunities in China. The last class I had with him was modern Chinese culture, in which he invested a great deal for our sake by creating painstakingly thorough notes, sending supplementary resources, and making the somber decision to share his serious personal experiences from his life in China with us. It was not long after this that he wrote me to announce his retirement. Afterwards, the last time he wrote to me was only a few months before he passed away. He told me about his pleasant experience eating at Kintian with his family over the Chinese New Year, an experience he had spoken of before so often in class.

Professor Ren was the best kind of teacher a student could have, and I am so lucky to have known him. He will be greatly missed, but his impact on his many students will endure.

*Sincerely,
Shannon*

Shannon - July 14, 2018 at 02:27 PM

“ To Mrs. Ren and the Family of Professor Ren,

It was with great sadness that I learned recently of Professor Ren's passing when I went online to see if I could find a phone number where I could give him a call. Please let me offer my sincere condolences to you. Professor Ren was a very special man and singular teacher who made a big difference in my life. I would like to share with you my best memories of him.

I first met Professor Ren when I was only a 15-year-old high school student back in 2007. My family had just moved to Corvallis from California where I had been studying Chinese at school, and my parents worked with him to see if I could take his classes even though I was not in college yet. I was so nervous when he first interviewed me over the phone, but Professor Ren was very welcoming and encouraging. He was the perfect person to have as your first-ever college professor really, because he was always warm and encouraging to all his students.

Professor Ren was a charismatic teacher. He had an impassioned lecture style which he somehow maintained while still interacting personally with each individual student. His eyes would light up whenever he told a good story, and his voice would boom whenever he made a critical point. Additionally, Professor Ren believed in a multi-media approach to teaching us Chinese. He showed us lots of videos, sent us links to music, and played many recordings of spoken dialogue in class. Of course, sometimes this would lead to technical difficulties, and we would watch as the badly-behaved boom box frustrated him to no end. I remember that finally, one of my classmates had a great idea, and we all pitched in for a brand new boom box for Professor Ren!

Professor Ren went out of his way to engage us with learning Chinese language and culture as much as possible. He never hesitated to remind us to speak Chinese when we were in his class, and he even posted a reminder in giant characters on his classroom

wall when we weren't getting the message, reading "请说汉语". He always called us by our Chinese names not only in but also outside of class, and he connected us with lots of opportunities to celebrate Chinese culture outside of class as well. Because of Professor Ren, I got to read the Li Bai poems "静夜思" and "赠汪伦" at the "Babble Tree" university language reading event, and I even got to sing "茉莉花" and "康定情歌" with my classmate at OSU's China Night. Those were wonderful experiences that made me feel more connected to the community.

Perhaps even more memorably, I think the most unusual opportunity Professor Ren gave me was the experience of writing an article about our class 火锅 party for the 人民日报. This really put my language skills to the test, but with his close supervision and help, I was overjoyed when the article was eventually published in the "Learning Chinese" section of newspaper. I couldn't believe I was able to share an experience that people from China might actually read about! He also did whatever he could to foster our successful travel to China. He helped students get scholarships and jobs teaching English in China, and he helped us all take the standard proficiency test (the HSK) to prepare us for our future travels. It was in ways like these that I believe that Professor Ren truly helped bring people closer together.

(1/2) -Shannon

Shannon - July 14, 2018 at 02:27 PM