

### **11/16/05 In Memory of Dr. Zheng-yu Peng**

West Hartford, Connecticut. Dr. Zheng-yu Peng, Ph.D., a researcher and faculty member at the University of Connecticut Health Center, died on November 16, 2005 after a long and courageous battle with cancer. He was 45.

Dr. Peng was born in Beijing, China in 1959. He received a rigorous science education in China, which culminated with a B.S. degree in Physics from Beijing University. In 1982, Dr. Peng came to the United States to continue his studies and obtained his Ph.D. in Physics from Carnegie Mellon University in 1989. He then pursued his childhood dream of working in the biological sciences through postdoctoral studies at the University of California, Berkley and then at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1995, he joined the faculty of the University of Connecticut Health Center, and quickly rose to the position of Professor in the Department of Molecular, Microbial, and Structural Biology. Scientific research was his driving passion. His creative and rigorous work focused on the area of protein folding, and included work on proteins involved in cancer and other diseases. He published more than 30 scientific articles based on his well-recognized work, supported by numerous major grants from sources that included the National Institutes of Health and the American Cancer Society. Dr. Peng's great intellect, keen insight, broad knowledge, and generous nature were highly valued by his co-workers. Many colleagues will remember his delight in a fine dinner, preferably prepared by his wife Li, accompanied by an excellent scientific discussion. He was also an outstanding teacher in the classroom and in the laboratory, and his spirit will live on through the numerous students and scientists he trained and influenced during his career. He remained active in the work of his laboratory until his death.

Dr. Peng was a loving husband and father in his unique way to his wife Li Luo and his daughter, Lily. He enjoyed watching and encouraging the development of Lily's many talents. He is also survived by his father Dr. Peng Huan-wu, age 91. A memorial service will be held on December 3, 2005 at 1:00PM at The Universalist Church of West Hartford (433 Fern Street, West Hartford, CT), and a reception will follow. The burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to his daughter's education fund (Lily Peng, Sovereign Bank, 1010 Farmington Ave., West Hartford CT 06107 Attn. Mia Cornicello).