



## Jian Li

October 17, 1957 - October 8, 2021

Professor Jian “Lee” Li began his career at the University of Northern Iowa as a Visiting Professor of Anthropology in 2001, earning his appointment to Assistant Professor in 2003 and his promotion to Associate Professor of Anthropology with tenure in 2010. His research interests included medical anthropology, food and nutrition, and economic development and health care. His primary field research was conducted in his native China, but he also conducted cutting-edge ethnographic research among the Yao people of Northern Thailand. Jian earned his Ph.D. degree in Anthropology from the University of Kansas in 2000. Dr. Li taught several courses at UNI including Culture, Disease and Healing, Food and Culture and Introduction to Cultural Anthropology. Respected by his students and appreciated by his colleagues, Professor Li will be greatly missed. Dr. Mark Grey, Head of the UNI Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology, stated, “The department has lost a valued colleague and friend. The unique cultural and academic perspectives he brought to the department and his students can never be adequately replaced.” Jian became a naturalized citizen of the United States in October 2019. He is survived by his wife, Ling, and two children.

# Tribute Wall

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“ Jian Li (李建) 的墓碑终于在4/17/2025, 安装好了。这几年, 非常艰难。我和孩子们, 终于自救成功。感谢所有帮助过我们的人, 还有神的庇护。 Lin



Lin - May 05, 2025 at 12:46 PM



“ I was in Professor Li's class on China about 8 years ago at UNI. He was one of the kindest professors I encountered at UNI. I enjoyed his class very much, he was very knowledgeable and passionate about the content. I am so sorry to hear of his passing. I hope his family knows how many students he positively impacted.

Kelby Robb - October 12, 2021 at 07:44 PM

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Thank you.

Lin - May 05, 2025 at 12:52 PM