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TAIWAN--Dr. Tih-wu Wang, long-time friend and donor of Eastern Illinois University, died of liver complications on March 11, 1996. Due to Dr. Wang's contributions to world peace and the welfare of the people of Taiwan, he was given a semi-state funeral. The President of Taiwan, Teng-hui Lee, attended the visitation. Pallbearers were the incumbent Prime Minister and the three living former Prime Ministers of Taiwan.

He was born in Tungyang, China in 1913. He was educated at the College of Culture in Shanghai and at the Chinese Military Academy in Whampoa, Canton. He served 20 years in the Chinese Army, achieving Major General in Chiang Kai-shek's Bodyguard Division.

Dr. Wang was founder and former Chairman of Board of the United Daily News, the largest daily newspaper in Taiwan, and of World Journal of New York, the largest Chinese language newspaper published in America and Canada. He also owned Reader's Digest, Economic Daily News, Chinese Tribune, European News of Paris, and U.S. News & World Report (Chinese Language Edition).

A philanthropist, he contributed generously to Eastern Illinois University over the years. Beneficiaries have been the Departments of Journalism and Political Science, International Student Services, and the College of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation. In 1995, he established the Wang Thi-wu Scholarship to benefit students majoring in Journalism and fields relating to mass media.

In 1987, Dr. Wang received a Doctorate of Humanities Letters from Eastern Illinois University. In 1979, he received an honorary Literary Doctorate from St. John's University of New York. In 1981, he was cited in the U.S. Congressional Record for his achievements and also received the President's International Medal from St. John's University.