



Celebrating the life of Professor Wang Zhengguo

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cjtee.2025.02.001>

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It is with profound sadness that I received the news of the passing of my friend and esteemed colleague Prof. Wang Zhengguo. He was a giant leader and scholar in traffic medicine.

Prof. Wang not only played a key role in the development of Traffic Medicine, but also in the history of the International Traffic Medicine Association, or as we all called it "ITMA". He was a Board Member of ITMA and served as its President. To host any World Congress of ITMA is an enormous responsibility and effort. Prof. Wang hosted three! The first, was in 1999 (May 24–27 in Chongqing), the second in 2011 (May 13–16 in Chongqing), and the third in 2016 (September 24–26 in Beijing). These meetings were all distinguished for their technical presentations and for the opportunities for scientists from all over the world to exchange technical information and to become personally acquainted. Prof. Wang was an exceptional presenter of technical work at these meetings. The meetings also included unforgettable evening entertainment programs. Who could forget Prof. Wang singing in a commanding and deep baritone voice a song in striking Russian?



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My relationship with Prof. Wang goes way back some 34 years. We first met in January 1991 in New Delhi, India during an international conference on vulnerable road users. I have a clear memory of the two of us getting acquainted as we sat beside each other on a bus traveling to one of the conference activities. Since then, I have had many in-person interactions with Prof. Wang. Indeed, perhaps more than can be expected for two colleagues with homes 13 thousand km apart. Of course, we also had much correspondence in addition to these personal meetings. I was particularly honored to be invited by Prof. Wang to write the preface to the impressive book *Modern Traffic Medicine* edited by Prof. Wang. This book is one of his many contributions to traffic medicine.

Prof. Wang was a gracious kind generous friend and host. My wife Wendy and I particularly fondly remember the dinner we had with Prof. Wang and his wife Prof. Zhu at which we chatted about family and other personal matters.

He was a true friend. His wisdom, knowledge, and dedication will continue to benefit traffic medicine and reduce injuries. His memory will continue to be a blessing.

Dr. Leonard Evans

President Emeritus, ITMA



Prof. Wang Zhengguo and Dr. Leonard Evans in Chongqing, May 1999.