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OBITUARY

In memoriam Prof. Jiming Yang (1959–2021)

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It is with a very heavy heart and deep sense of sorrow that we must announce that Prof. Jiming Yang passed away during the morning hours on December 21, 2021. This is a heartbreaking news that nobody wants to believe because it is the most difficult fact for us to accept that our energetic and active Prof. Yang leaves us so soon.

Prof. Yang was born in Southern China in 1959 and entered the University of Science and Technology, Hefei, China, in 1978 when Chinese high-education system was just restored. He earned his doctorate degree at the Institute of Fluid Science of Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan, under supervision of Prof. Takayama in 1995 and became the first doctoral candidate who completed the doctoral degree in two years at the University. During the two years, Prof. Yang built the Diaphragm-less Shock Tube and became one of the early researchers who came up with the idea of using a flexible rubber membrane along with the choker plate to create very repeatable shock waves in shock tubes. This unique facility he built together with Prof. Takayama at the Shock Wave Research Center, Sendai, Japan, helped many students and researchers to carry out very repeatable (with 0.2%) shock wave experiments in many complex scenarios. During the recent years, Prof. Yang created another new shock tube technology with which a uniform bow shock wave can be generated from a planar one for Richtmyer–Meshkov instability study that is a fundamental research topic in shock wave dynamics. He also proposed a physical model of the multi-shock interaction in air-breathing hypersonic vehicles, which makes this complex problem easy to approach with high accuracy.

Prof. Yang made several notable important contributions in understanding shock wave phenomena. More than anything, Prof. Yang was always willing to share his knowledge and was keen on international collaborations. At the 32nd International Symposium on Shock Waves (ISSW32) held in Singapore in 2019, Prof. Yang presented his plenary lecture, and we were happy to see his great progress. Little did we realize that listening and talking to him at ISSW32 in Singapore would be the last time when we would be meeting him.

Prof. Yang served as the Dean of the College of Engineering Science, University of Science and Technology of China, for many years, has been teaching Gas Dynamics and Shock Wave Dynamics every year and built up the laboratory of shock waves for graduate student education. He was recognized nationally as a great educator in China, highly respected and deeply loved by his colleagues and students. Prof. Yang served as an International Advisory Committee member of the International Symposium on Shock Waves, an editorial board member of Shock Waves Journal, and the Director of Shock Wave and Shock Tube Committee of the Chinese Society of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics.

Prof. Yang is a distinguished scientist in the international shock wave research community. He dedicated his lifetime

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to shock wave research and will stay in our mind forever. On behalf of shock wave research friends, we wish and pray to almighty to give courage and strength to his family to overcome the loss. May his soul rest in peace.