**OBITUARY - Xie Nanzhu**

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Emeritus Professor Xie Nanzhu, Guangzhou Medical University, People’s Republic of China (PRC), died September 2, 2017 at the age of 91. Professor Xie was the first full member of the AAPM from the PRC having joined in 1984. Some of you may remember him as Nelson Xie, Xie being his Chinese surname, and Nelson, an Anglo name he adopted because he loved Nelson Eddy, the 1940s singer/actor.

I first met Professor Xie in the early 1980s at an AAPM meeting. He and I became fast friends as he did also with many other medical physicists, all of whom travelled to the PRC - Larry Lanzle, John Cameron, Ed Sternick, Andrew Wu, Bill Hendee, and more. Several illustrations in my textbook “Radiologic Science for Technologists” beginning with the 4th edition, 1988, were inspired by Professor Xie and are dedicated to him.

Professor Xie contributed to medical physics education and research in the PRC for nearly half a century beginning in the 1970s. Having taught thousands of students he is considered one of the principal pioneers in China in the fields of medical physics, medical imaging, and biomedical engineering.

In addition to his active participation in the AAPM, Professor Xie was also a member of the International Organization of Medical Physicists (IOMP), the New York Academy of Sciences, a past director of the Chinese Association of Medical Physics, a past director of the Chinese Association of Biomedical Engineering, and honorary president of the Chinese association of Medical Imaging Technology.

His leadership in exchange with American and international scientific communities in the fields of medical physics and biomedical engineering opened the door for more international academic interactions and imported modern technologies to the PRC such as CT, MRI, SPECT, and PET in the 1980s and 1990s.

My relationship with Nanzhu was very close and personal and included our families. He attended the 2008 annual meeting of the AAPM and spent that week with Bettie and me in our West University home very near the convention center. And our friendship continued to our next generation. His son, Xie Chen, who had worked for Guangzhou Medical University came to spend a year shadowing me and my colleagues at BCM. “Xie Chen, no one will remember your name. We have to give you an Anglo name.” I said. “Your father’s favorite movie star was Jimmy Stewart so we’re going to name you Jimmy Xie!” Jimmy is now Jimmy Xie, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Anesthesia and Critical Care, University of Chicago.

Professor Xie is survived by a daughter Hong, sons Qing and Zheng, and six grandchildren.