

Obituary

Sejin Kim (1933–1984)

The untimely death of Sejin Kim from cancer reminds us once again of the age-old Oriental adage that man's life is in the hands of Heaven. Kim was a member of the American Political Science Association, the Association for Asian Studies, and a founding member of the Association of Korean Political Scientists in North America. His death was a tragic loss not only to his loving family but also to his friends and colleagues who share many fond memories of his bountiful warmth, energy, and dedicated public service. He was a skilled scholar, a diplomat, and an administrator. He served as the Consul-General of the Korean Consulate in New York for three years before he assumed the post of Vice-Minister of Commerce and Industry for the Republic of Korea shortly before his death.

Kim studied briefly at Yonsei University before coming to the United States as a student in the early 1950s. He studied at Southwestern University and at the University of Massachusetts, from which he received his doctorate in political science. From 1965 to 1969 he taught at Eastern Kentucky University. In 1969 he assumed the chairmanship of the Department of Political Science at North Carolina Central University.

Kim's most momentous personal and professional decision came in the mid-1970s, when, as a Fulbright exchange scholar in Korea, he decided to remain in his native country. First, he served as Director of the Research Center for Peace and Unification; later, he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Director-General of its Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security. The author and editor of more than half a dozen books, he founded *Korea and World Affairs*, an English-language quarterly, in 1977. Above all, however, we remember him as a human being, warm, energetic, and enthusiastic.

HONG NACK KIM
West Virginia University

SUNG CHUL YANG
University of Kentucky

YONG SOON YIM
Virginia Commonwealth University