

Benjamin Chen was born September 6, 1964 and left us on June 6, 2023. Ben grew up in Taiwan where he graduated from National Taiwan University with a degree in Entomology. He moved to the United States to pursue and obtain his PhD in Biochemistry from Ohio State University. After a post doc period in California, he moved to Texas taking a position as an Assistant Professor and then Associate Professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology at UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX. His research interests were genomic instability, cancer development, radiation biology, DNA damage repair and stem cells.

Ben was known to be a generous person at work. He always encouraged young researchers and supported them on their career paths. His passion for science was infectious. More than his personal achievements, Ben was concerned about contributing to humanity. At the time of his passing he was working on a project that he hoped would lead to future medications.

Ben was a man of great faith who was always seeking to know and understand more about God's word. He had a beautiful, genuine interest in others, listened attentively and prayed faithfully. Friends remember him as a thoughtful, humble man with a joyful countenance and a big smile.

In his free time Ben enjoyed cooking. He was particularly known for his delicious beef turnovers, steamed meat buns and cream puffs. On weekends he could be found walking the dog with his family, observing insects and watching PBS documentaries.

Ben is survived by his wife, Alice, and his two children, Crystal and Austin; his parents, Chen Chun-Lin and Chen-Chang Hsiang-Lien; his siblings, Iris, Grace and Michael; his nephew, Kelvin; and his nieces, Buena, Jean and Jenny.