Dr. Dan J. Wedemeyer  
June 22, 1945 – March 16, 2016

Danny Joe Wedemeyer was born in Adair, Iowa, June 22, 1945, the first of four sons of C. Don and Marilyn (Ernst) Wedemeyer. Dan grew up on a farm in Guthrie County, Iowa, attended a rural one-room school, and then Adair-Casey High School. He attended Iowa State University and graduated with a BS degree in 1968. A few weeks after starting a job at IBM, Dan was drafted and entered the U.S. Army, ultimately stationed at Fort Shafter near Honolulu, Hawaii. He formed a life-long love of the Hawaiian Islands and their people.

While in Honolulu, he completed his Master's in Communication at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and then a second Master's and a PhD from the University of Southern California - Annenberg School of Communication. Dan spent his career at the School of Communications at the University of Hawaii, retiring as Professor Emeritus in 2011 after a career spanning more than 30
years. Dan was an expert on telecommunications forecasting, focusing on the Asia-Pacific region. His research highlighted the ways that telecommunications could improve the quality of life for the region by using planning methods that focused on a long-term view. He travelled to dozens of countries and was the co-author or co-editor of several books and dozens of articles and policy reports. He was the editor of the Pacific Telecommunications Council’s Annual Proceedings for twenty years. He was also a Fellow of the East-West Center, a Fulbright scholar in Yugoslavia, and earned many other academic distinctions. For all his accomplishments in research, Dan was equally known for his teaching and mentoring. Dan received the Presidential Citation for Excellence in Teaching from the University of Hawaii. During his career, he taught more than 5,000 undergraduate students, more than 750 graduate students, and served on an estimated 250 Master’s and doctoral committees. His influence as a teacher led to former students and colleagues establishing The Dan J. Wedemeyer Excellence in Teaching Award at UH, that encourages graduate students to excel at teaching.

On October 30, 2006, Dan was married to Setsuko Uemura. Dan is survived by his loving wife Sets of Honolulu; His mother, Marilyn Wedemeyer of Guthrie Center, Iowa; Brothers Del (Sharon), Lyle (Cheryl) and Marlon Wedemeyer; and nieces Jenni Wiig, Amelia Wedemeyer, Olivia Wedemeyer and Lauren Wedemeyer. He was preceded in death by his father C. Don Wedemeyer, grandparents, Adam and Minnie Ernst, George and Alma Wedemeyer, beloved nephew Ryan Wedemeyer, and his mentor Stan Harms.

Memorials can be sent to the Dan J. Wedemeyer Excellence in Teaching Award at https://giving.uhfoundation.org/funds/12692804