

Dear Colleagues,

It is with deepest sadness that we announce the passing of [Carter J. Eckert](#) (1945 - 2024), Yoon Se Young Professor of Korean History Emeritus at Harvard University. An award-winning specialist on the economic and political history of modern Korea, Carter's scholarship, teaching, and service shaped generations of students, inspired countless colleagues, and had a profound influence on the field of Korean Studies. Carter's commitment to the study of Korea began in 1969 when he arrived in Seoul as a Peace Corps volunteer; it endured for a lifetime. At Harvard, Carter joined the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations in 1985 and served for eleven years as the Director of the Korea Institute (1993 – 2004), which he expanded and transformed through his labor and leadership. Earlier this year, Carter's colleagues and former students organized a major symposium in his honor. His intellect, humility, generosity, and joyful laughter will be greatly missed.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the [Carter J. Eckert Endowment Fund](#) at the Harvard Korea Institute.

We will keep you informed as plans develop to honor his memory.

Respectfully,

*Nicholas Harkness
Modern Korean Economy and Society Professor of Anthropology
Director, Korea Institute, Harvard University*