



Lee Liu

B.S., Electrical Engineering, 1957

Lee (Li) Liu was born in 1933 in Hunan, China, in the turmoil of many years of war. When the Communist Party took control of China, his family migrated to Brazil in 1950 to begin a new life. In 1953, Liu arrived at Ames, Iowa, to attend Iowa State.

To support himself, Lee worked numerous jobs around campus, and in 1957, he graduated with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering. He joined Iowa Electric Light and Power Company as an engineer. Over the years, he rose in the management ranks, and in 1983, he was appointed the company's Chairman, President and CEO. Liu expanded his company by acquisition, merger and diversified investments. In 1998, the new company, Alliant Energy, had tripled in size, providing energy services to Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota. Liu was instrumental in attracting U.S. and foreign industrial investments to Iowa. Liu received the Anson Marston Medal in 1996, and in 1998, he received the Horatio Alger Award for his outstanding accomplishments while overcoming significant adversity through hard work, dedication and integrity.

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