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JARET WEISFOGEL

(December 5, 1966–April 25, 2005)

On April 25, 2005, Dr. Jaret Weisfogel died, at the age of thirty-eight, after a four-year battle with cancer. Dr. Weisfogel had received his PhD from the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures at Columbia University in 2002 and held a Heyman Center postdoctoral fellowship until his illness required him to step down from teaching. His dissertation was entitled "Confucians, the Shih Class, and the Ming Imperium: Uses of Canonical and Dynastic Authority in Kuan Chih-tao's (1536–1608) Proposals for Following the Men of Former Times to Safeguard Customs (Ts'ung-hsien wei-su i)." Dr. Weisfogel painstakingly read Guan Zhidao's detailed program for ritual in daily practice against both his personal and social context, as well as the classical texts and early Ming proclamations Guan drew on, to illuminate long-term changes in elite status and identity. A longer obituary, and an article by Dr. Weisfogel that is part of a larger project in which he was a moving spirit, will appear in issue 50 of *Ming Studies*.

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