



Remembering Hani S. Mahmassani

The Northwestern University Transportation Center celebrates the life of Professor Hani S. Mahmassani, who passed away on July 15, 2025.

Friday, October 10, 2025 • 2 p.m.

Alice Millar Chapel, Northwestern University
1870 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60208



Share Your Memories

We invite everyone to share your memories and stories about Hani Mahmassani on our tribute wall.

About Professor Hani S. Mahmassani

Professor Hani S. Mahmassani, born January 6, 1956, was the William A. Patterson Distinguished Chair in Transportation and director of the Northwestern University Transportation Center. A globally recognized leader in transportation science, he specialized in multimodal transportation systems, dynamic network modeling and optimization, transit network planning and design, dynamics of user behavior and telematics, telecommunication-transportation interactions, large-scale



human infrastructure systems, and real-time operation of logistics and distribution systems. He earned his BS in civil engineering from the University of Houston (1976), his MS from Purdue University (1978), and his PhD in transportation systems from MIT (1982).

Hani joined Northwestern in 2007 after appointments at the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Maryland. A passionate mentor, he advised over 75 doctoral students, many of whom now lead

research and education in the field. His honors include election to the National Academy of Engineering (2021), the Robert Herman Lifetime Achievement Award (2023), and becoming an INFORMS Fellow (2024). He was recognized with numerous other awards for his work and was a prolific and frequently cited author. Around the world, government agencies, research institutions, companies, and the media relied on his expertise.

Beyond academia, Hani was a family man. Born in Beirut, Lebanon, he married Millicent "Milli" I. K. Mahmassani in 1980, whom he met during his graduate studies at Purdue. He was preceded in death by Milli and his parents, Sobhi and Ismat. He is survived by his sons, Amine (Kelsey) and Ziad, girlfriend Sandra Rafael, brothers Ghaleb (Jinane), Malek (Nada), Maher (Hania), as well as many nieces and nephews.

Hani's brilliance, generosity, and warm spirit enriched colleagues, students, and family alike. His legacy endures in transportation research and in people's hearts.



Condolences

In lieu of flowers, please consider giving to the Northwestern University Transportation Center.

Memorial Service

Welcome

Joseph Schofer • *Professor Emeritus, Northwestern University McCormick School of Engineering*

Prepared Comments

Christopher Schuh • *Dean, Northwestern University McCormick School of Engineering*

Julio M. Ottino • *Professor, former Dean of Northwestern University McCormick School of Engineering*

Bret Johnson • *Interim Director, Northwestern University Transportation Center*

Amine Mahmassani • *Son*

Karen Smilowitz • *Professor, Associate Provost, Northwestern University*

Nigel Wilson • *Professor Emeritus, MIT*

Justin Zubrod • *Former Northwestern University Transportation Center Business Advisory Council Chair*

Benjamin Kushner • *Brother-in-law*

Chandra Bhat • *Professor, University of Texas at Austin*

Doug Waggoner • *CEO, Echo Global Logistics*

Sandra Rafael • *Partner*

R. (Jay) Jayakrishnan • *Professor, University of California, Irvine*

Elise Miller-Hooks • *Professor, George Mason University and*

Amelia Regan • *Professor Emerita, University of California, Irvine*

Hoseb Abkarian • *Former doctoral student / Google*

Ziad Mahmassani • *Son*

Sharika Hegde • *Current doctoral student*

Patricia Mokhtarian • *Professor, Georgia Institute of Technology*

Amine Haoui • *Best friend*