

In memoriam - Prof. Dr Dzafer Kudumovic

It is with great sorrow that we remember **Prof. Dr. Dzafer Kudumovic**, who left us recently.

His life and achievements were great, but through it all he maintained a sense of simplicity.

He was born in 1949 in Banovici. Growing up on the banks of the Krivaja river, he dreamed about his future. Starting from his student days with his homework written on the board and some notebooks in his hands, he became a respected professor in the field of mechanical engineering, with particularly mastery in the field of welding techniques.

He studied in Croatia at the universities of Rijeka and Zagreb, earning his MSci degree at University of Zagreb in 1989 and doctorate in 1993 at the University of Rijeka. Before the outbreak of the war (1992-95) in Bosnia he was a manager of one of the preeminent structural engineering firms in ex-Yugoslavia and oversaw the construction of a number of key bridges in Bosnia connecting the main roads of the country from north to south. Under his management, the company worked internationally as well, overseeing the framing system for several big projects abroad (Austria, Czech Republic, Russia).

During this period, he gained rich practical knowledge and experience and also served as a Mayor of Banovici municipality in 1989-91.

In 1990, he started his academic career at the University of Tuzla, becoming a full professor in 2005. He was also a professor in the Faculty of Transport and Communication at University of Sarajevo, and a guest professor at the universities of Mostar, Bihac, Zenica, Novi Pazar (Serbia) and Ljubljana (Slovenia).

He was author of many books, including Science of Strength of materials, Materials I and II, Welding, Basics on technology of railway transport etc., and many scientific papers. His vision enhanced the academic life of the Balkan region. In 2001, he was awarded for innovation in Brussels and Nurnberg for the self-acting water pump Klipna pumpa RC-2000 (Piston Pump). In 2006, he established the TTEM journal, which he managed during his lifetime. In 2007, he was awarded by the special recognition in Republic of Slovenia for multilateral work dedicated to welding techniques and for his contribution to economic progress.



He was a beekeeper and he also loved sport. He played football during his student years and this helped him make strong friendships and overcome the challenges of being a student far from home.

In 1984, he received special recognition for his contribution in organisation of the Winter Olympic Games in Sarajevo.

Once, a professor told him:

“Kudumovic, I am sure you will become something important in your life, but never change, keep your spirit and never cause others to suffer by your decisions”.

He mentioned these words several times, it was important to him, and thus anyone who knew him informed his attitudes and his approach to life and work. Also, this is why so many of his ex-students became his friends.

He lived a simple life, enjoyed being with people of every nation and religion, and had a great circle of family and friends. No matter how much life made him busy, he took joy in his family, as a great husband and father to his two daughters.

His passing is a great loss for all of us,

We will always miss him

May God have mercy on him.

Editorial