

In Memoriam – Professor Erwin Stein

This issue of our Journal is devoted to commemorate our highly esteemed colleague Erwin Stein who passed away on December 19, 2018. Erwin Stein was a Professor Emeritus of Structural and Computational Mechanics at the Leibniz University in Hannover in Germany. He was the Chair of the Institute from 1971 until 1998. In His long and highly successful professional career He made profound contributions to the development of computational mechanics, notably to the fundamentals of the finite element method and its applications in different areas of solid mechanics. His contribution to the development of research in the highly innovative and creative discipline of computational science and engineering was truly unique and thus had a huge impact on research community worldwide. During His whole career Professor Stein promoted interactions of His core discipline with mathematics community which resulted in many fundamental contributions, notably in the areas of error estimation and adaptivity. Numerous and often cited publications, membership in the editorial board of a number of highly rated scientific journals, several high prizes bestowed upon Him by scientific communities and governments and a number of honorary doctor degrees from universities from all over the world underline the outstanding personality of Professor Stein. His work was highly acknowledged and widely appreciated by all His research colleagues. Among His research distinctions we may mention the Gauss-Newton Medal, the highest award of the GAMM society and the Ritz-Galerkin Medal, the highest award of the ECCOMAS community. We should also acknowledge His longstanding support and continuous work for the International Association of Computational Mechanics from which He obtained the IACM Fellows Award. During His academic career He guided 57 talented scientists for their PhDs' with quite a number of them becoming later professors at different universities. He remained very active long after His formal retirement and until His last days worked hard in His office at the institute. No doubts, the scientific legacy of Professor Stein provides important guidelines for His colleagues and successors. The scientific community has lost an outstanding researcher and very many of us are missing today a good friend, colleague and mentor.

In the CAMES issue of 2012 (Vol. 19, No. 1) we published the inspiring article by Erwin Stein which evoked a huge interest among our readers. The objective of this special issue of our Journal is to recall one more time the enormously rich research output of Professor Stein to express again the highest respect of computational community for His professional achievements.

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