

**VLADIMIR VASIL'YEVICH STRUMINSKII†**

(1914–1998)



Vladimir Vasil'yevich Struminskii died on 22 February 1998. V. V. Struminskii, Doctor of Technology, professor, academician, Director of the Department of Mechanical and Mathematical Methods at the Praesidium of the Russian Academy of Sciences, was an eminent academic and an extraordinary intellectual, a trailblazer who has left his mark on all areas of science and technology to which he applied his acute brain and curiosity. The subjects in which he was interested and researched intensively included the mechanics of flight and power engineering, physics and chemistry, ecology and quantum mechanics, chemical and mechanical engineering, aviation and space, philosophy and economics, ideology and the origin of life on earth.

Everyone lucky enough to have met him will remember him as a person who demanded much of himself and of those around him and yet, at the same time, was attentive and helpful at a human level, concerning himself with the trivia and difficulties in the everyday life of his colleagues.

Professor Struminskii was born into a teacher's family in Orenburg on 29 April 1914. After graduating from Moscow State University, from 1941 to 1966 he worked at the Central Aero- and Hydrodynamics Research Institute, starting as an engineer and rising to the position of deputy-director. In 1958 he was elected a corresponding member and, in 1966, an active member of the USSR Academy of Sciences. From 1966 to 1971 he was director of the Institute of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics of the USSR Academy of Sciences and from 1977 to 1988 he headed the Section of the Mechanics of Heterogeneous Media at the Department of Mechanics and Control Processes of the USSR Academy of Sciences and was simultaneously head of the Department of Mechanics of Heterogeneous Media

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at the Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology. From 1989, he was head of the Department of Mechanical and Mathematical Methods at the Praesidium of the Russian Academy of Sciences, and from 1995 he was President of the Department of "Problems of the Survival of the Human Race" of the International Academy of Information Processing at the United Nations.

For 40 years he was an active member of the editorial board of the journal *Prikladnaya Matematika u Mekhanika*.

V. V. Struminskii made a major contribution to the aerodynamics of aircraft, boundary-layer theory, the non-linear theory of stability, the motion of continuous media, the kinetic theory of gases and turbulence theory, and was the author of many books and papers of great value to science and technology.

Until recently he worked actively in ecology, directing theoretical and practical studies on electrophysics, the disposal of outdated atomic reactors, and the introduction of cryogenic fuel for use in cars.

The many tributes he received included, among many others, the Lenin Prize and the State Prize of the USSR, the Prize of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, the UN medal, the Zhukovskii Prize and Gold Medal, the Order of Lenin, Orders of the Red Flag of Labour, the Red Star, Friendship of the Peoples, and the Symbol of Honour. He followed the path of a scientist, devoting his life and soul to the search for truth and to the service of his people for the honour of his country.

*From his colleagues, comrades and friends*