



**In the memory of
Prof. Dr. Rajko Pavlovec
(1932-2013)**

Professor Rajko Pavlovec was born January 15th 1932 in Ljubljana, at that time Kingdom of Yugoslavia. Here he attended primary school and grammar school, where he graduated in 1950. In the same year he enrolled in the study of geology at the University of Ljubljana. He completed his studies in 1954 with a diploma thesis in the field of palaeontology. Doctoral thesis was defended in 1962 under the supervision of Ivan Rakovec.

After graduation he was employed at the Institute of Palaeontology of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts. During the years from 1971 to 1975, he worked as the editor of popular science book editions at the publishing house Mladinska knjiga. Pedagogical work at the Department of Geology of University of Ljubljana began in 1969. In 1975 he became associate professor and in 1981 full professor.

He retired in October 2005. During his active career in years 1957 and 1961 he visited University of Vienna and in the period 1963 to 1965 he was awarded Alexander von Humboldt scholarship for which research post was done in

Munich. At the Department of Geology he has taught various subjects at the undergraduate and graduate level; fundamentals of stratigraphy, biostratigraphy, regional geology, palaeontology and micropalaeontology were among the most important. He has taught also at other Faculties of his alma mater as well as at the University of Maribor and University of Zagreb in Croatia. He was supervisor of many theses at various levels. In the teaching process was not inconsiderable his role in a number of faculty and university committees and commissions. He has served also as a head of the Department of Geology and he was Associate Dean and Dean of the Faculty of Science and Technology. His scientific research work was focused on the palaeontology. Within his most important achievements are investigations in the field of Foraminifera palaeontology, especially genus Nummulites and Assilina which he studied by a lot of care and love. He was not only interested in taxonomy, but he was devoted to the issues of ecology and pathology of these species. With lectures, papers and posters in his entire scientific life he participated in numerous national and international professional meetings representing primarily the problem of Foraminifera and Palaeogene stratigraphy. He wrote about 350 scientific papers and technical articles published in national and international journals and proceedings. He has devoted his scientific research work also to the issues of geology science history and "geological ethnology", where he discussed the ethnological tradition in relation to geology. Important is also his work on the Slovenian geological terminology. In the wider public he is well known as successful popular science writer. His picture-book Karst is among the most successful popular science books in Slovenian language and hundreds of his popular science papers in various journals and magazines stimulate many of the present day geologists to find their way into the science. He was a member of several national and international societies, editor and editorial board member for many periodicals and monographs.

He was president of the Slovenian Geological Society and President of the Natural History Society of Slovenia. Until his death he was very active member of the Natural Sciences and Engineering

section at Slovenska Matica the oldest active Slovenian scientific society. It is worth to mention that he was also big admirer of small graphic art and very active in collector societies of this precious craft. Professor Pavlovec was a popular teacher. His students will be remembered of his lectures, among which he tried always to add something, either with an anecdote from everyday or professional life, either with a joke. Especially we can memorize excursions and field work where not only Geology has been present but space as a whole, with all its diversity, from the culture to the

traditions and history. Professor Pavlovec contribution to palaeontology and geology will remain permanently inscribed as a very important contribution to the development of the Slovenian geological school. We should also mention the enthusiasm Rajko Pavlovec collected bookplates with geological and other topics.

August 25th 2013, just a few weeks before the 12th ERBE-Symposium at Bozen/Bolzano started, Rajko Pavlovec passed. Much too early for many friends and colleagues. He is survived by his wife Snežna Pavlovec.

Mihael Brenčič



Rajko Pavlovec with his wife Snežna and their friend Karel Pošmourný (right) from Praha during the 6th ERBE-Symposium at Idrija, Slovenia, in 2002. That year Rajko reached his 70th birthday.