

***In memoriam***

Bulgarian and world computer science lost a prominent colleague:

**Dimitar Petrov Shishkov**

**22<sup>th</sup> January 1939, Varna – 8<sup>th</sup> March 2004, Sofia**



D. Shishkov graduated mathematics at Sofia University in 1962. In the last year of his studies he started a specialization as a programmer at the Joint Institute of Nuclear Research – Dubna which lasted three years. Then he worked at the Institute of Mathematics for two years. In 1966 D. Shishkov together with a group of experts transferred to the newly created Central Laboratory for Information Technologies. In 1976 he defended his PhD dissertation. He has been an associate professor in computer science at Sofia University since 1985 and a professor in computer science since 2000.

His scientific interests and results were in the fields of computer architectures, computational linguistics, artificial intelligence, numerical methods, data structures, etc.

He was remarkable with his teaching activities.

D. Shishkov was the creator of high-quality software for the first Bulgarian electronic calculator “ELKA” – one of the first calculators in the world as well as for the series of next calculators and for specialized minicomputers.

He was the initiator of the international project “Computerization of the natural languages”.

He was a member of a range of international scientific organizations. Among his numerous activities was the organization of the I-st Programming competition in 1979.

D. Shishkov was the initiator of sport dancing in Bulgaria (1967) and founder of the first sport-dancing high school education in the world.

D. Shishkov was a highly accomplished person with a diversity of interests, with a developed social responsibility and accuracy in his work.

**In 1996 D. Shishkov was awarded with the International Prize ITHEA for outstanding achievements in the field of Information Theories and Applications.**

We are grateful to D. Shishkov for the chance to work together with him for establishment and development of IJ ITA.