



IN MEMORIAM
1934 - 2010

Our dear colleague and friend, professor emeritus Osman Muftić, PhD, left us suddenly and unexpectedly on 27 July 2010, creating an aching void by his departure.

Professor Muftić was born on 8 March 1934 in Sarajevo. As a young boy, he moved with his family to Zagreb where he lived until his death. In 1959, he graduated in mechanical engineering from the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture of the University of Zagreb. After having served one year in the Yugoslav Army, he joined the company *Instalacije* where he worked as an engineer specialized in the design of heating and air conditioning systems until 1963. In that year he was elected as an assistant at the Chair of Mechanics at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture. He received his MSc degree in mechanics from the same Faculty in 1969. His PhD degree in mechanics was awarded to him by the University of Zagreb in 1972 after he had completed and defended his thesis entitled: *The influence of the limit design theory on the structure of biological*.

He was elected as an Assistant Professor in 1979, as an associated professor in 1976, and as a full professor in 1982. He served as a vice dean of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture in two terms and as a dean in 1990. In the same year, he was appointed as the first Minister of Science, Technology, and Information Science by the Parliament of the new, independent country, the Republic of Croatia. Later, he also served as ambassador of the Republic of Croatia in the Islamic Republic of Iran. After his retirement, he was elected as Professor Emeritus of the University of Zagreb in 2005.

In recognition of his outstanding contributions and achievement he was honoured with two decorations and several awards in science and teaching. Among them, he received the *Annual Science Award Nikola Tesla* and the *Lifetime Achievement Award*.

Pedagogical, scientific and professional contribution of Professor Muftić is invaluable. He published 172 scientific and professional papers, and six textbooks. He was a contributor to *Encyclopaedia of Engineering* and *Handbook of Fundamental Engineering Sciences*. In his research work he paid special attention to biomechanics and ergonomics. He was the advisor on more than hundred BSc theses, 40 MSc theses and 24 PhD theses. Professor Muftić was an excellent teacher, beloved and estimated by his students and colleagues. Above all, he was a very good and compassionate man. Losing him, we all have lost a very good friend.