In memoriam of Valentin S. Afraimovich (1945-2018)

Valentin Afraimovich (called Valya by his friends) passed away on February 21, 2018 during a visit to Nizhny Novgorod (Russia). His sudden death is a sorrowful lost for the dynamical system community at large. He was an excellent mathematician, a distinguished colleague, a warmhearted person, and a dear friend.

Valentin received his Ph.D. in Mathematics from the Nizhny Novgorod State University (former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) in 1974 under the supervision of L.P. Shil'nikov. At that time he held already a research position at the Institute of Applied Mathematics and Cybernetics in Nizhny Novgorod. He became a professor in 1988.

After leaving the Nizhny Novgorod State University in 1991, Valentin held academic positions at Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, USA (1992-1995), Northwestern University in Evanston, USA (1995-1996) and the National University of Tsing Hua in Hsinchu, Taiwan (1996-1998). In 1998 he moved to the University of San Luis Potosí, Mexico, where he remained the rest of his life. Thanks to his teaching and mentoring, San Luis Potosí became a world-class center of dynamical systems and nonlinear science. Valentin (co-)authored numerous papers and some books. His fundamental contributions in dynamical systems and the qualitative theory of differential equations include bifurcation theory, stochastic synchronization, travelling waves in lattice models, strange attractors, space-time chaos, complexity of orbits and dimension-like characteristics of invariant sets, dynamical complexity, as well as collaborations in applied fields such as computational neuroscience, cognitive science and biological systems. He served as editor of the journals Chaos, Communications in Nonlinear Science and Numerical Simulation, Chaos and Complexity Letters, International Journal of Bifurcation and Chaos, Chaos, Solitons and Fractals, and Applied Mathematics and Nonlinear Sciences. He remained active until his death.

He was also well known for his cordial character and passion for music. His many friends and colleagues will miss him very much.

Applied Mathematics and Nonlinear Sciences invites for contributions to honor the memory of this big mathematician.

José M. Amigó, Edgardo Ugalde, and Pablo Varona.