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In memoriam

Gheorghe Micula (1943 - 2003)

Gheorghe Micula died on December 24, 2003, on Christmas Eve, at the age of sixty. Professor and mathematician Micula's death convinces us once again, if it were necessary, about the fact that life on earth is almost nothing.

His unwavering commitment to nurturing mathematical talent had a profound impact on many young people.

Loud-spoken and unfailingly polite, professor Micula posed a potent will that allowed him to translate into educational practice his own exalted ideals about mathematics, knowledge, creativity and communication.

Gheorghe Micula was born in the village of Delureni, Bihor County, Romania, on April 23, 1943. After finishing secondary school in Vadul Crişului, in 1960, he became a student at the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, University of Cluj-Napoca, where he was deeply influenced by Tiberiu Popoviciu, Dumitru V. Ionescu and Dimitrie D. Stancu.

In 1971 he obtained the degree of Doctor of Mathematics (Ph. D) with the thesis "*Contribution to the Numerical Solutions of Differential Equa-*

tions by Spline Functions", under the guidance of professor Dumitru V, Ionescu. He worked between 1975 - 2003 at the University of Cluj-Napoca, where, in a normal succession, he advanced up to the rank of full professor at the Chair of Differential Equations.

The scientific work of Gheorghe Micula is divided to several topics: Numerical solutions of Differentials, Integral and Partial Differential Equations, Spline Functions and Their Applications, Numerical Analysis, Approximation Theory and the Mathematical Education.

He contributed greatly to our mathematical knowledge. His publication list contains 91 items (7 books and 84 original papers).

Gheorghe Micula kept to the end his passion for Mathematics, for teaching and for encouragement of teachers and students at all levels.

His passion will continue to make an impact as we remember Gheorghe Micula.

Dumitru Acu