

Alexander S. Davydov (1912-1993)

A.S.Davydov died in February of a disease induced by a heart attack. In the early 1940s simultaneously and independently of Rarita and Schwinger he proposed a relativistic equation for spin 3/2 particles. Later he shifted towards solid state theory, nuclear physics, nonlinear phenomena and biophysics. Such notions as "Davydov splitting", "Davydov-Filippov model of nonaxial nuclei", "Davydov solitons" became widespread. A popular author of brilliant books and manuals, his "Quantum Mechanics" is used worldwide as a basic text. He worked in Moscow, Kiev, Obninsk and Ufa. From 1973-88 he headed the Institute for Theoretical Physics of the Ukrainian Academy of Science in Kiev, and remained as Honorary Director of the Institute.

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