

Igor Kobzarev 1932-1991

Igor Kobzarev, who died unexpectedly in Moscow on 20 January, was remarkable for being both an outstanding physicist and a real philosopher, concerned with the deepest problems of mind and knowledge, culture and history. In addition to well-known results on the physics of kaons, on cosmological implications of spontaneous symmetry breaking, on general relativity and on hadron structure, his philosophical and historical work was also influential, including a book, in English, with Yu.I. Manin – 'Elementary Particles. Mathematics, Physics and Philosophy'. His charm and erudition attracted young and old alike, and his talents were highly appreciated by many, including I. Pomeranchuk, I. Tamm, Ya. Zeldovich and A. Sakharov. Despite this high esteem of his colleagues, he gained little formal recognition.

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