

Yurii Nikolaevich Pechersky

At the beginning of this year Moldavian science suffered a heavy and irreplaceable loss - Yurii Nikolaevich Pechersky, one of the oldest research workers of the Institute of Mathematics and Informatics of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova, departed on February 1. He was a prominent scholar in the field of applied mathematics, talented popularizer of science, a member of the editorial board of the Computer Science Journal of Moldova. Yu.N.Pechersky was born in 1934 in Moscow. After graduating from Tomsk State University (radio-physical department) in 1960 he began to work there as an engineer in the laboratory of computing devices. Then he worked as an engineer, later as a chief engineer at the Computing Center of the Academy of Sciences of the Armenian SSR.

He was the employee of the Institute of Mathematics and Informatics since the date of its foundation in 1962. His first scientific works in the sphere of applied mathematics, concerning automation of digital automatic machine synthesis, appeared at that time. The diapason of scientific interests of Yu.N.Pechersky is rather wide: recognition of im-

ages, graph theory, automated system of collective examination, expert systems. He published about 160 papers, 6 monographs and 7 popular scientific books. Popular scientific literature is a peculiar part of his activity. He loved it. He prepared every publication very carefully, and one of the books even contains his own graphical illustrations. They are notable for clear language, precise material and deep and intelligible way of presentation. In 70ies there began active investigation in the new field of intellectual computer systems under the direct guidance of Yu.N.Pechersky. The Laboratory of the artificial intelligence systems was created at that time, Yu.N.Pechersky was its permanent leader. The research workers have carried out a number of interesting projects, concerning making expert systems. They turned to be first in Moldova. The employees of the laboratory prepared and defended 8 doctor theses.

The laboratory maintained close contacts with scientific centers in Moscow (CC of the AS USSR, IPU AS USSR), Minsk (The Institute of Technical Cybernetics), Kiev, Tomsk, St.Petersburg, Novosibirsk, etc. On Pechersky's initiative there were held 10 symposiums and workshops according to the topics of the artificial intelligence. Diplomas marked the research activity of Yu.N.Pechersky not once. Many pages of the history of the Institute of Mathematics and Informatics, beginning with its foundation and till present, are connected with the name of Yu.N.Pechersky. He never limited himself by the circle of formal duties and he always found time and energy to participate actively in the social life of the Institute, being particularly vivacious in 70ies-80ies. During many years he was the editor, painter and inspirer of the wall newspaper "Mathematician", being notable for its permanent good taste and wide topics. It was always read with great interest by a lot of people.

Those who knew Yurii Nikolaevich Pechersky will remember him forever as a person whole-heartedly devoted to science, unselfish toiler, magnificent company with irreproachable and kind sense of humor, modest and reliable comrade.