

Thoughts on Juergen Warnatz from Phil Hutchinson

Unfortunately I cannot be with you to offer these comments in person.

Others will speak on Juergen's contributions to Combustion. I will simply observe that they are seminal, wide ranging and internationally recognised. There is a rather old fashioned British saying which, for me, sums up his scientific contribution. He was an ornament to his profession. His contributions will be greatly missed. Fortunately he leaves a large and able cohort of past students to carry his work forward.

As well as being an innovative scientist he was also a shrewd planner. He was one of the very few to spot that in computationally intensive fields it is prudent to plan calculations around the computing power that will be available, using Moore's Law to forecast, rather than that which is currently available. This gave him a considerable edge over less perceptive colleagues.

Even so clever science and shrewdness are not enough without diligence and hard work. In these areas Juergen also excelled. He had the most highly developed sense of duty that I have ever encountered. If Juergen committed to do it, it was done on time or earlier.

Despite his scientific eminence I miss him more as a good friend than a researcher. We met through the IEA and immediately formed a close bond of friendship which still endures. It is one of the great benefits of our happy IEA collaboration that we combine useful

scientific collaborations with international goodwill and friendship. Without our collaboration I doubt that Juergen and I would have become friends as our fields were rather far apart.

Juergen the man was multi faceted. He was a good family man taking good care of his responsibilities to wife and children and enjoying his first grandchild. He was engaging, stimulating and amusing company with an enormous capacity for good red wine. We drank many good bottles together on his balcony looking at the castles. He was a skilful cook and enjoyed good food. He enjoyed travel and new people, though he did not suffer fools gladly, or even at all. His driving style was entirely in keeping with German autobahn system combining great skill with significant aggression. He was direct in his views sometimes to the shock and alarm of those who did not know him. He was candid, so we always knew his views, occasionally inflexible and always honest. His sense of humour always precluded any hint of pomposity. He was a good and reliable friend.

Curiously I think that he had some foresight of his early death. He told me at his sixtieth birthday party, which was quite a celebration, that he had decided to have a big party as he did not think that he would make it to his sixty-fifth birthday. I pooh-poohed his concerns at the time. Sadly he was right; ever the forward planner.

I miss him greatly though he lives on in my mind.

Phil Hutchinson

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