

OBITUARY – ENDER ARKUN



It is with sorrow that we announce the passing of our dear friend and colleague Mr. Ender Arkun on April 23, 2020.

Following his involvement in the launching of *Teknik Dergi* in 1989, Mr. Arkun actively served in the Editorial Board for an uninterrupted period of thirty years. After the journal's move to bilingual publication three years ago, he also contributed to the final editing of the manuscripts in English.

Mr. Ender Arkun was born on March 23, 1940 in Kabul, Afghanistan, where his father was on temporary duty as a medical doctor. When he was four years old, the family moved back to Istanbul. He attended the English High

School and later Robert College, where he was introduced to western culture and outlook. He later studied civil engineering at Yıldız Technical University.

After graduating in 1969, Mr. Arkun worked as a design engineer for an Italian contractor company in charge of the design and construction of the viaducts on the E5 highway. In 1971, he took office in the Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK). During his two terms at TUBITAK (1971-1988 and 2000-2004), he served in various positions, as Researcher and Acting Chair of the Building Research Institute, as Deputy Secretary General and as Chair of the Construction Technology Research Group. He contributed to the document "Turkish Science Policies 1983-2003". Between the two periods of his TUBITAK service, he worked for eleven years for the private construction sector and served as the Secretary General of a leading construction company in Turkey. During his first period of TUBITAK employment, Mr. Arkun assumed a duty in the Turkish Standards Institute to serve as a member of the Civil Engineering Standards Coordination Group.

After leaving TUBITAK, he joined the Turkish Academy of Sciences (TUBA) and served as the Consultant to the Academy President for four years. His interview with Prof. Bernard Lewis at Princeton University is an important documentary produced by TUBA within the framework of a series titled "Those Who Cast Light on Science".

He was happily married to Sünter Arkun long enough to celebrate their golden anniversary. He had a daughter, a son and a grandson.

Mr. Arkun was a well-educated and well-balanced gentleman. He was known by his tolerant and friendly personality, which made him popular in both the social and business circles. His reliable and industrious character and his refined sense of humour made collaboration with him both productive and enjoyable.

The Editorial Board acknowledge the invaluable contributions of Mr. Ender Arkun to *IMO Teknik Dergi* and wish to extend their sincerest condolences to the Arkun Family.

Prof. Tuğrul Tankut

On behalf of the Editorial Board