

Obituary : Haruhisa Shimoda



It is with deep sadness that I have to share with you the passing of Prof. Haruhisa Shimoda. He passed away on March 9, 2019 at the age of 74. He was suffered from cancer. He was one of the key persons in the field of satellite remote sensing. He was TC VIII President from 2008 to 2012 and successfully organized Mid-term Symposium in Kyoto in 2010. Please pray for him.

Prof. Haruhisa Shimoda received the B.S., M.E., and Ph.D. degrees in Chemistry from the University of Tokyo, Japan. He joined Tokai University in 1972 as a Lecturer of the Department of Electro-Photo-Optics, Faculty of Engineering. He became an Associate Professor in 1974. In the same year, he joined Tokai University Research & Information Center (TRIC) as a Senior Researcher. In 1985, he became a Professor there. In 1994, he joined the National Space Development Agency (now Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) as an Invited Scientist, where he has been the Program Scientist for ADEOS and later for the Global Change Observation Mission (GCOM). In 1999, he became Deputy Director of TRIC. In 2000, he became Director of the Tokai University Space Information Center (TSIC). He has been engaged in the field of remote sensing since 1974. His main achievements are development of a remote sensing image analysis system, including both hardware and software, developments of high-accuracy classification algorithms, and development of IMG on ADEOS. His contribution to the development of remote sensing satellites in Japan is tremendous. He is also known as the main editor of the book entitled *Image Analysis Handbook* written in Japanese. This book is called “a bible on image processing” in Japan.

He invited me to join Tokai University in 1982. Since then, we have worked together in many projects, and I have learned much from him. Especially his stoic and precise approach to his research works was very impressive. He assigned me many tasks. Through his assignment, I understood his expectations and I had to work hard to meet them. I think this was the way he trained up others. He was a kind person, but was not so kind to un-precise research works of the others. When he became ISPRS Commission VIII President on remote sensing in 2008, I supported him as a Secretary. Due to our hard work, the mid-term Symposium in Kyoto in 2010 was quite successful. It was a good memory for us. He was famous for smoking, drinking and reading books. Prof. Shimoda, don't smoke too much in heaven!

Kohei Cho

General Secretary

Asian Association on Remote Sensing (AARS)

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