Giselle Antunes Monteiro; Antonín Slavík; Milan Tvrdý
To the memory of Štefan Schwabik

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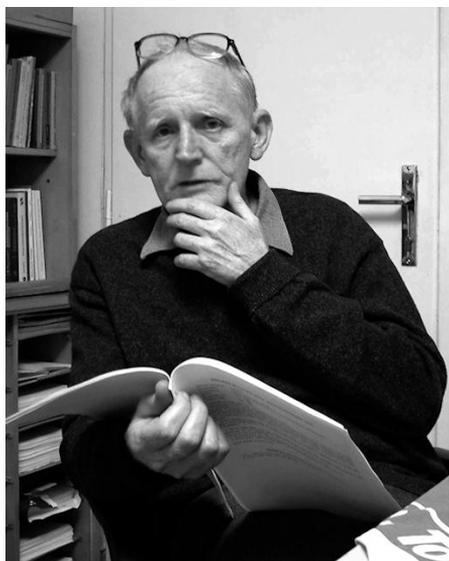
In November 2009, Professor Štefan Schwabik died suddenly at the age of 68. Ten years have passed, the world has changed in ways that would possibly surprise our dear Štefan. But the scientific legacy left by him is still a source of inspiration for many young mathematicians.

In 1964, immediately after graduating in mathematics from the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics of Charles University in Prague, Štefan became member of the Mathematical Institute of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences (now Czech Academy of Sciences). In those early years of his academic career he dealt with classical linear control problems, but soon became enthusiastic about non-absolute integration and generalized differential equations, theories fathered by the Czech mathematician Jaroslav Kurzweil. Štefan's research comprehended real and functional analysis, ordinary and generalized differential equations, operator theory as

well as history of mathematics. In particular, his monographs are important highlights of his outstanding contributions to the field ranging from integration theory to systematic studies of generalized linear and nonlinear differential equations. A complete list of his publications is available in the article *Remembering Štefan Schwabik (1941–2009)*, which was published in vol. 136 (2011), no. 2, pp. 113–134 of this journal.

During his life, Štefan always showed a strong interest for history of mathematics. The booklet *A Short Guide to the History of Integral* (in Czech, Prometheus, Praha, 1996), written together with Petra Šarmanová, is an important representative of his connection to the field. Štefan regularly attended conferences and other events on the topic, usually giving to the audience knowledgeable lectures about the history of mathematical analysis. In 1994, he became a member of the editorial board of the series *History of Mathematics* (the only Czech publication of the type). Being a notable pedagogue, Štefan was a long-term member of the scientific committee of the Ph.D. study program *General Questions of Mathematics and Computer Science* at Charles University, which focuses on mathematics education, history of mathematics, and elementary mathematics. Furthermore, he contributed to the foundation and development of the Ph.D. study programs at Masaryk University in the fields of mathematical analysis, history of mathematics, and mathematics education. He was deeply involved in promoting the history of mathematics to high school teachers, giving lectures at summer schools, and also engaging himself in the problems of mathematics education at elementary schools.

Štefan was well known in the mathematical community, having friends and collaborators worldwide. The lucky ones who happened to meet Štefan may agree that his witty sense of humor was his distinguishing feature. His name certainly evokes memories of broad smiles or even loud laughs. He was a good observer of the world, and the camera was his inseparable friend in this pursuit.

For thirty years he was closely connected with the journal *Mathematica Bohemica* (formerly *Časopis pro pěstování matematiky*). In 1981–1989 he held the post of deputy chief editor, in 1990–2007 the post of chief editor. He collaborated with the editorial board till the day of his death. This issue is composed of articles on topics of his interests and is dedicated to his memory.

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