

in memoriam

TIIT PURRE

(1931–2003)



On September 7 this year Tiit Purre, a well-known oil shale scientist, passed away.

T. Purre was born in Tallinn in 1931 to a workman's family. After graduating from the Faculty of Mining and Chemistry of Tallinn Technical University in 1954 he was employed at Kharkov Research Institute *Giprokoksi* in the Ukraine. Back in Estonia he worked first at Maardu Integrated Chemical Plant. In 1958 he was nominated the head of chemical laboratory of Kiviõli Oil Shale Chemical Plant. T. Purre worked at Kiviõli until 1963 when he was transferred to Oil Shale Research Institute at Kohtla-Järve where he headed the laboratory of shale oil chemistry and technology, and the technology department of oil shale processing liquid products for 35 years.

Being engaged in research his main activities were directed at introduction of new complex schemes of shale oil processing. He supervised the studies on working out the technology for coking shale oil heavy fractions to produce electrode coke, and the method for manufacturing wood impregnation oil. Both these processes were successfully put into practice. T. Purre studied also extraction and further processing of oil shale phenols (alkyl phenols), processing shale oil light fractions and aromatic hydrocarbons, etc.

Being a leading specialist, he participated in elaborating technological solutions for reconstruction of oil shale processing enterprises.

T. Purre defended the PhD degree in 1974. He participated in numerous international symposiums and presentations at exhibitions, presenting the

scientific results of his institute's research in Switzerland, Canada, Germany, Roumanien, Belgium, the United Kingdom, Netherlands, the U.S.A., Russia, etc.

His profound knowledge in oil shale processing and the resulting great authority in the world of science was greatly supported by his excellent knowledge of English, German, Swedish, Ukrainian and Russian.

T. Purre was a member of *Oil Shale* advisory board, the author of over 60 scientific papers and 14 inventions.

We have been bereaved of a good colleague and a well-known scientist.

Editorial Board of Oil Shale