Editorial

Johan Jacob (Jaap) Seidel died in May 2001. He served as a member of the advisory board of the Journal of Algebraic Combinatorics since the first issue. He turned 80 during a birthday conference held in his honour in August 1999, and sadly, that conference was the last scientific event he enjoyed in full health. He is known not only as a prolific researcher on linear algebraic methods in graph theory, but also as a mathematician who initiated contact across areas of mathematics. Graph theory, design theory and coding theory are now well-integrated and closely related to each other, perhaps due to his pioneering work on these areas. Although his name will permanently disappear from the advisory board after this issue, we know that what Jaap Seidel has done—finding connections between different areas of mathematics, will remain a main driving force in the development of algebraic combinatorics.

Akihiro Munemasa

Cheryl E. Praeger

Arun Ram

Victor Reiner