OBITUARIES

Mikhail Grigor'evich Mil'vidskii (August 2, 1932–April 22, 2009)

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Mikhail Grigor'evich Mil'vidskii, prominent scientist, doctor of technical sciences, professor, academician of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences, Lenin prize winner, two-time USSR State prize winner, Honored Scientist of the Russian Federation, and Honorary Metallurgist of the Russian Federation, died suddenly on April 22, 2009.

Mil'vidskii began working at the State Institute of Rare Metals (Giredmet) in 1956 after graduating from the Moscow State Institute of Steel and Alloys (MISiS) and took active participation in the organization of semiconductor silicon production in the Soviet Union. Due to his talent, very high diligence, and organizing abilities, he rapidly arranged the first commercial production of silicon in the Soviet Union. Mil'vidskii and some of his colleagues from Giredmet were awarded the Lenin prize in 1964 for this achievement.

Mil'vidskii's further activity was related to developing and fulfilling production technologies for gallium arsenide and a number of other important materials. In 1975 Mil'vidskii was awarded the USSR State Prize for developing the technology and organizing production of single-crystal gallium arsenide. In 1984 he was awarded the second State Prize for designing high-efficiency injection lasers, light-emitting diodes, and photodetectors based $A^{III}B^V$ solid solutions.

Mil'vidskii's contribution to the development of physics in our country can hardly be overestimated. He is an author of several monographs and more than 500 scientific publications. His studies are widely known and recognized in Russia and abroad.

Being a member of the Scientific Council of the Russian Academy of Sciences on the Physics of Semiconductors and the Physicochemical Bases of Semiconductors Science and of the Scientific Councils of Giredmet, Institute of Crystallography of the Russian Academy of Sciences, and MISiS, Mil'vidskii did a lot of pedagogical work to train experts in his field. He actively participated in the preparation of a larger number of candidate's and doctoral dissertations. For many years Mil'vidskii was the chairman of one of the state attestation committees of the State Technological University MISiS and was deservedly respected by teachers and students of the university.

Mil'vidskii was a member of the editorial boards of the journals *Kristallografiya* (*Crystallography Reports*), *Fizika i Tekhnika Poluprovodnikov* (*Semiconductors*), and *Izvestiya Vuzov. Materialy Elektronnoi Tekhniki* (*Higher School Bulletin Materials for Electronic Engineering*).

Mil'vidskii personified inexhaustible optimism, cheerfulness, wide erudition, scientific conscientiousness, and exactingness for his subordinates. Although he was very diligent, he knew how to relax and was the life of the party in any situation. His kindness, delicacy, heartiness, and humanity won the love and deep respect of everyone who was privileged to know him.

The students, colleagues, and friends of Mikhail Grigor'evich Mil'vidskii will always remember him in their hearts.

Translated by Yu. Sin'kov