Vladimir Borisovich Golubev (1931–2011)

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Vladimir Borisovich Golubev, a professor of Moscow State University, an outstanding Russian scientist, and a specialist in the field of macromolecular compounds, passed away on April 15, 2011.

Golubev was born on September 25, 1931, in Moscow. His entire life was inseparably linked with the Faculty of Chemistry, Moscow State University, where he graduated in 1955. Golubev traversed the path from research engineer at the Chair of Physical Chemistry to head of the Laboratory of Polymerization Processes at the Chair of Macromolecular Compounds.

Golubev was one of the first researchers in Russia who started to use and adapt the ESR method for studying the elementary events of radical-polymerization processes. His engineering talent and deep knowledge of radio engineering and electronics allowed him to design and build a radiospectrometer, which is still being used to perform most studies involving the ESR method at the Chair of Macromolecular Compounds. Golubev mastered and developed a new direction, the use of the spin-trapping technique to study the kinetics and mechanism of radical homo- and copolymerization processes; his doctoral thesis,

defended in 1987, was based on this direction. Golubev authored more than 200 scientific papers and reviews published in leading Russian and foreign journals. His studies were considered to be the best in *Polymer Science* (*Vysokomolekulyarnye Soedineniya*). For many years, Golubev was a member of the Academic Council and Dissertation Council at the Faculty of Chemistry, Moscow State University. In 2001, he was awarded the title of Honored Researcher of Moscow State University.

Golubev's high renown, great erudition, and encyclopedic knowledge attracted many people to him; for those people, he was not only a scientific adviser but also a partner. Golubev was an excellent experimentalist; his enthusiasm, scientist's curiosity, and desire for penetrating the essence of the matter allowed him to solve the most difficult scientific problems. He established a special practical course at the Chair of Macromolecular Compounds entitled The ESR Technique in Polymer Chemistry, where students investigated both educational and research problems.

Golubev was a born teacher; he was always surrounded by young people, and he generously shared his knowledge with them. He performed experiments; discussed the results; and shared his experience with students, postgraduate students, and colleagues, often having stayed late in the laboratory.

For many years, Golubev participated in organizing and holding All-Union (later, International) Mendeleev Chemistry Olympiads for school students. In 2005, he was awarded the title Honored Worker of Higher Education for his contribution to the education of future researchers.

Golubev was a broad-minded person with various interests. For many years, he was an irreplaceable chronographer and photographer of the Chair of Macromolecular Compounds and the Faculty of Chemistry of Moscow State University. His willingness to help, responsibility, and great amicability always aroused respect and admiration. Being the life and soul of the team, he attracted people seeking advice, because they felt his willingness to help them.

The warm and glowing memory of Vladimir Borisovich Golubev, a kind and charming person and an outstanding scientist and teacher, will live in the hearts of his colleagues, friends, and followers forever.