

Aleksandr Alekseevich Boyarchuk[†] June 21, 1931–August 10, 2015

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Aleksandr Alekseevich Boyarchuk died on August 10, 2015, in the 85th year of his life, following a serious illness.

Academician A.A. Boyarchuk was an eminent scientist in the field of astrophysics and space research, as well as a major organizing figure in Russian science. The sphere of his scientific interests encompassed astrospectroscopy, the physics of stars, extra-atmospheric astronomy, and telescope construction. A.A. Boyarchuk made a large contribution to astrophysics in the area of interacting binary stars of various types. He was a leading specialist in extra-atmospheric astronomy and an exceptionally eminent authority in the field of fundamental space research. The “Astron” space experiment—a major Russian space astrophysical observatory for observations in the ultraviolet—was successfully realized under his supervision and with his direct participation. A.A. Boyarchuk actively worked on the new-

generation international space project “Universal Space Observatory—Ultraviolet” (Špektr–UV) up to the end of his life.

A.A. Boyarchuk was awarded numerous Russian and foreign prizes and honours, including the “Order of Service to the Fatherland” Classes IV and III, the USSR State Prize in Science and Technology, and the F.A. Bredikhin Prize and A.A. Belopol’skii Prize of the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS). He was a member of many prestigious foreign and Russian societies and academies, Honorary Professor of a number of universities, and Chairman of the National Committee of Russian Astronomers. The high international regard of A.A. Boyarchuk is demonstrated by his selection in the 1990s as President of the International Astronomical Union. In various years, A.A. Boyarchuk was a member of the Presidium of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the Academician Secretary of the RAS Division of Physical Sciences, the Chairman of the Section of General Physics and Astronomy of the RAS Division of Physical Sciences, the Assistant Chairman of the RAS Council on Space, and the Director and then Scientific Supervisor of the Institute of Astronomy of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

A.A. Boyarchuk was for many years the Chief Editor of *Astronomicheskii Zhurnal* (*Astronomy Reports*). Under his leadership, in spite of all difficulties encountered over the years, the journal maintained its status as a scientific publication known worldwide.

The death of A.A. Boyarchuk is a heavy loss for the entire scientific community. We express our sincere sympathy to his family, close friends, and colleagues.

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