

In Memory

Dr. Alexandru C.V. Ceapa as I know

Isabel Gaju *

ABSTRACT

This is my brief recollection of Dr. Alexandru C.V. Ceapa as a family friend and physicist.

Key Words: Alexandru Ceapa, Romanian, physicist, dissident.

My parents and I were fortunate enough to meet Dr. Alexandru C. V. Ceapa by life's very unpredictable events which in the end make the way life is. Particularly, my father had met Dr. Ceapa's parents in his childhood when he had started school and had Prof. Maria Urdareanu Ceapa who was Dr. Ceapa's mother as his remarkable physics and chemistry teacher and Mr. Victor Ceapa who was Dr. Ceapa's father as his Romanian language and literature teacher.

Dr. Ceapa was born on the 14th of July 1945 in a very difficult period in Romania history when the communist regime gained control over Romania. This history negatively impacted all his life from losing everything that his ancestors had built for generations to being social marginalized and political persecuted. Dr. Ceapa was truly a Romanian dissident.

Despite of the injustices and hard social and political environment, Dr. Ceapa passionately carried a lifelong scientific research in physics. After the 1989 anti-communist revolution in Romania, Dr. Ceapa was able to attend physics conferences through private sponsorships and published some of his life-long scientific work in the West. He even got a U.S. Green Card and planned to become a permanent resident in the US so as to carry on his scientific research in a free country. Unfortunately, Dr. Ceapa could not pursue this dream of liberty since he had to Stay in Romania to take care of his ailing and old parents. Dr. Ceapa remained in Romania which he deeply loved until the end of his life on Earth.

Dr. Ceapa obtained his Ph.D. in physics, Magna Cum Laudae, from the University Al. I. Cuza (UAIC) in Iasi, Romania. He then worked as a physicist in the Magurele Nuclear Physics Institute, Bucharest, Romania for two years until his post at the Institute restructured. During the last a few years of his life, Dr. Ceapa continued to write scientific articles and lived in his parents' house in a beautiful small village in Romania where he died in the spring of 2006.

Dumnezeu sa te aibe in paza sa , draga Alexandru. God will keep your noble soul in His kingdom, dear Alexandru.