Editorial: Tribute to Leopold Benda  
(1933–1998)

It is with regret that we inform our readers of the passing of LEOPOLD BENDA, Managing Editor of the Newsletters on Stratigraphy from 1970 to 1998. LEOPOLD BENDA passed away suddenly on October 9th, 1998.

Born on January 13th, 1933, in Brno/Moravia, he attended schools in Brno, Vienna and Delitzsch. After his graduation in 1951, he studied geology at the universities of Halle/Saale, Cologne and Bonn from 1951–1958. His diploma thesis covered the Palaeozoic of map sheet Overath (Bergisches Land), his doctoral dissertation was on the Rhenish Lignite Formation (Tertiary) with palaeobotanical, palynologic-petrographic and faunal topics. On December 1st, 1958, he joined the Hannovrian German Geological Survey, where he first took part in a prospecting program on uranium-thorium anomalies. Afterwards, he primarily carried out in palynology of the Cenozoic and became member of the division for Geological Mapping.

In the years 1965–1969, he was the local team leader of the German Technological Aid program “Lignite Prospection” in Turkey of Dr. OTTO GOLD mining consultant in cooperation with the West German Geological Survey. Afterwards, he participated in projects of the German Science Foundation “Vertebrate Palaeontology” and “Volcanism” in Turkey.

In 1978, he was appointed head of the subdivision “Mineral deposits” and, later on in 1981, head of the division “Applied Geology” of the Geological Survey of Lower Saxony. Since 1972, he has carried out a close cooperation with the Rijksuniversiteit Utrecht (The Netherlands) in the International Geological Correlation Program (IGCP) project “Biostratigraphical correlation of the Tethys-Paratethys Neogene in the Mediterranean”

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