



International Radiation Protection Association

20 November 2020

Baerbl Maushart

Dear Baerbl,

I have learned with great sadness of the passing of our dear colleague Rupprecht. As well as being a great loss for you personally, this is also a very significant event in the history of IRPA because the last of our 'founding fathers' is no longer with us.

Rupprecht has indeed been an 'ever present' within the IRPA community since the very beginning, long before my own personal involvement in the Association, and indeed long before my involvement in the field of radiation protection. His involvement in this early period has been chronicled in Geoff Webb's history of IRPA, which clearly illustrates the central role played by Rupprecht. He was present at the meeting in 1963 of an Ad Hoc Committee which agreed in principle for the creation of IRPA, also a member of a select sub-committee which became the 'pro tempore' Executive Council which then drove forward the arrangements to establish our organisation. These activities led to the formal establishment of IRPA in 1966.

He remained as a key and close supporter of IRPA for his whole lifetime, and was formally involved again during the period 1988 – 2000 in the capacity as Treasurer. I guess that it was during this later period when I first met him at an IRPA Congress, and then I am sure that I met him at every single Congress since then. Always in your company! The two of you were both dedicated 'IRPAists', and I certainly hope that this sad event will not stop you from continuing to be part of our RP family.

My last memory of Rupprecht is at the Fachverband's 50th Anniversary meeting at Heringsdorf in 2016, which I attended as IRPA President in the company of Renate. I well remember the boat trip that formed part of the social programme, and I have some delightful photos of Rupprecht on the boat. Indeed one of these is now displayed on the IRPA website news page where we mark his sad passing.

I send you my condolences, and the best wishes of the whole IRPA family. I hope it will be of some comfort to know that Rupprecht was a highly regarded colleague of all of us in the world of radiation protection, and indeed a friend to many within our community.

Thinking of you,

Roger Coates

Roger Coates
IRPA President

On behalf of the IRPA Executive Council

