

Editorial

František V. Holub: an outstanding petrologist and teacher

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On Monday, July 20th 2015, our dear colleague František V. Holub passed away after a short but serious illness. František was born in 1949 in Písek, southern Bohemia, and graduated from the Faculty of Science, Charles University, in 1973 as an outstanding student of Professor Bohuslav Hejtman. After a one-year internship at the Czech Geological Survey, his whole-life professional career was closely tied to the Charles University, Institute of Petrology and Structural Geology, where he also defended his Ph.D. thesis in 1993. Since 2003, he worked at the Institute as an Associate Professor of Petrology.

František Holub focused on many issues in igneous petrology and whole-rock geochemistry with special emphasis on unusual alkaline and (ultra-)potassic mafic rocks such as durbachites and lamprophyres. He dedicated large part of his scientific and educational activities to his native country, southern Bohemia, which he loved so much that it greatly influenced his entire professional career. His research on petrogenesis of the Central Bohemian Plutonic Complex and on ultrapotassic rocks became internationally recognized and inspired many subsequent studies. In addition to his 'Bohemian' work, František also took part in several scientific expeditions to Central and Northern America and Antarctica and completed several research fellowships, mainly in France and Austria.

During his professional career, František Holub published a multitude of papers in both national and international journals. František was an extraordinarily talented geologist and petrologist, and his positive approach and attitude to both life and science cannot be expressed more faithfully than by his motto: "Rocks are



the only solid foundation of this world". František loved teaching, supervised many master and doctoral students, lectured extremely popular courses in igneous petrology, magmatic processes and microscopy and participated in many other educational and academic activities. Beyond his contribution to magmatic petrology, we cannot forget his deep humanity, modesty, and a great sense of gentle humor. In the person of František V. Holub we have lost a warm-hearted colleague, a good friend, a reliable adviser and an excellent geologist. But are we really losing anyone, who remains in our minds and hearts?