



Ad Memoriam



We learned with great sadness that **Professor Emeritus Daniel Vandepitte** passed away on June 21 after a brief illness. He was 94 years old.

Prof. Vandepitte has been a very long time chairman of the ECCS working group TWG8.4 shells and under his successful leadership four editions of the ECCS European Recommendations for buckling of steel shells were drawn. These recommendations were valid during more than a quarter of a century. He contributed significantly to the knowledge on the stability of steel shell structures and his influence reaches until today.

Prof. Vandepitte was from 1987 to 1993 chairman of Technical Committee 8 – structural stability and led the discussions about the gaps in the European codes.

ECCS is very thankful for the huge expertise shared with the European and International scientific community.

On behalf of all our colleagues, sincere condolences to his wife Mrs Vandepitte, his family, his numerous friends and colleagues.

Véronique BAES-DEHAN
Secretary General



Numerous reaction and testimonies have been received.

At the end of his life Prof Vandepitte looked with gratitude back to a rich and happy life. I had the privilege to have Prof. Vandepitte as a master to whom I could look up with admiration. I had also the felicity to be one of his numerous friends. He was a brilliant scientist, but, more importantly, an exceptionally good man. His strong personality and his endearing kindness will strongly remain in my memory.

Professor Guy Lagae, University of Ghent, former TC8 Chairman

I knew Daniel quite well, having overlapped with him on TC8 matters for many years. He was an excellent chairman: patient, fair and always focused on achieving positive outcomes. I well remember him hosting a dinner at his home in Ghent and carrying off with great aplomb the difficult task of seeming to be in each of the rooms making guests feel welcome.

We sometimes regard 'old school' as a term meaning out of date or old fashioned. Yet in his case it defined dignity, concern and a sense of wanting to see that everything was done well.

I count myself fortunate to have known him.

*Professor D A Nethercot OBE, FEng, FTSE, NAE,
Emeritus Professor of Civil Engineering, Imperial College London*