
Настоящият брой на Historia naturalis bulgarica е посветен на световноизвестния минералог академик Иван Костов, почетен член на БАН и директор на Национален природонаучен музей от 1974 до 1988 г. Броят трябваше да ознаменува неговата 90-годишнина (24 декември 2003 г.), но на 31 март 2004 г. голямият учен премина в един по-добър свят. Неговите заслуги за науката и за възстановяването на Музея ще се помнят и ще живеят в делата на по-младите поколения. На нашия дългогодишен директор и истински природоизпитател – последно сбогом!
Shortly after his 90-th anniversary the most prominent Bulgarian mineralogist, Prof. Ivan Kostov, passed away. He was born on 24.12.1913 in Plovdiv, and graduated in Sofia University (1936). Specialized in Royal School of Mines, Imperial College of Science and Technology, London (1940-1945). Professor of mineralogy and crystallography (University of Sofia), member of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, the German Academy 'Leopoldina' and the Russian Academy of Sciences. Honorary member of the Mineralogical Society, the Geological Society and the Geologists’ Association of the United Kingdom, of the Russian Mineralogical Society and the Ukrainian Mineralogical Society. Past President of IMA and Former Vice-President of IAGOD, as well as IGCP expert at UNESCO. Former director of the National Museum of Natural History in Sofia and of the Geological Institute of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. Honorary President of the Bulgarian Mineralogical Society. Author of textbooks on mineralogy and crystallography, as well as of over 260 publications.