

In memory of Dr. Sci. Alexander Zhilyaev



Doctor of Science Alexander Zhilyaev, principal researcher of the Institute for Metals Superplasticity Problems of the Russian Academy of Sciences (IMSP RAS), one of the world-known materials scientists, the member of the editorial board of Letters on Materials, passed away on November 20, 2020, at the age of 61.

Alexander Zhilyaev was born on July 1, 1959 in the town of Ishimbay, Republic of Bashkortostan, USSR. In 1981 he graduated from the physics department of the Bashkir State University and worked there until 1985. From 1985 to 1986 he worked at the Ufa Petroleum Institute. Since 1986, when Alexander began working at IMSP RAS, all his life was devoted to research in materials science. In 1992 he defended his Candidate of Science degree and in 2002 Doctor of Science degree at IMSP RAS. Familiar with the most modern research methods, both theoretical and experimental, Alexander Zhilyaev became an internationally recognized scientist and made important contributions in the fields of physics of grain boundaries, superplasticity, severe plastic deformation and nanostructured materials. He worked at various leading research centers in Canada, USA, Spain and the UK and worthily represented IMSP RAS in international scientific community. In 2018, he won a mega-grant under the program of international cooperation between Russian universities and scientific organizations and world-class scientists and created a laboratory for the mechanics of gradient nanomaterials at Magnitogorsk State Technical University. He considered the involvement of researchers and students of the university into international scientific cooperation as one of the most important tasks of this grant.

The distinguishing features of Alexander Zhilyaev's character were cheerfulness, sociability, a positive attitude to colleagues, a willingness to help and share knowledge and ideas. Together with his wife, also a physicist, they raised two children who chose the specialty of their parents.

The bright memory of Alexander Zhilyaev will forever remain in the hearts of colleagues and friends.