

In memory of Napalkov Valentin Vasilievich

30.07.1941 - 20.10.2021

On October 20, 2021, at the age of 81, a prominent specialist in the field of complex analysis and its applications, Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Academician of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Bashkortostan, Doctor of Physical and Mathematical Sciences, Professor Valentin Vasilievich Napalkov passed away.

V.V. Napalkov was born on July 30, 1941 in the city of Gorky (now Nizhny Novgorod). In 1959 he entered the Faculty of Mechanics and Mathematics of the Gorky State University. From 1964 to 1966 he taught in this university at the chair of the theory of functions. From 1966 to 1969 he was a PhD student at the chair of special courses in higher mathematics of the Moscow Power Engineering Institute under the supervision of the outstanding Soviet mathematician Alexei Fedorovich Leontiev. In 1970 V.V. Napalkov defended his PhD thesis "On the extension of generalized differentiation operators and some of their applications". In 1977 he successfully made his habilitation in Steklov Institute of Mathematics, the title of his thesis "Convolution equations in multidimensional spaces".

In 1971, A.F. Leontiev was sent to a just opened Department of Physics and Mathematics of the Bashkir Branch of Academy of Sciences of USSR for organizing scientific studies in mathematical sciences. He invited his closest students to Ufa, including V.V. Napalkov. This initiated a boost developing of the Ufa school in the theory of functions and complex analysis, in which V.V. Napalkov played an important role. Starting in 1971 as a junior researcher, he successively became a senior researcher (1972), the head of the sector of complex analysis (1985), director-organizer of the Institute of Mathematics with a computing center of the Ural Branch of the USSR Academy of Sciences (1987). From 1988 to 2015, he headed the Institute. From the very beginning of his work in Ufa, his scientific interests were mainly focused on multidimensional complex analysis and the theory of convolution operators, where he obtained fundamental results in the theory of hyperfunctions, the solvability of convolution equations and their systems, the description of kernels of convolution operators, sufficient sets, the holomorphic Cauchy problem, and a number of other important areas of analysis. A recognition of valuable scientific results was the election of Valentin Vasilievich in 1990 as a corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

Scientific work of V.V. Napalkova was inextricably linked with teaching and work on the supervising future highly qualified scientists. Since 1971, he taught at the Faculty of Mathematics of the Bashkir State University working at the chair of theory of functions and functional analysis.

Students and graduates of the Faculty of Mathematics always speak warmly about Valentin Vasilievich, mentioning a high level of his lectures and seminars, his passion for mathematics, an intelligent manner of presenting material and excellent human qualities. Since the end of the 70s, Valentin Vasilievich, together with A.F. Leontiev, was actually a head of the Ufa school on the theory of functions and complex analysis. He initiated a rich research program and he involved in it many of his students and followers. A distinctive feature of Valentin Vasilievich in his work with a talented people was his courage in formulating topical mathematical problems and generosity in distributing ideas to students. He supervised 25 successful PhD students, 5 of them made their habilitations. V.V. Napalkov did a lot of scientific and organizational work. He took an active part in the work of the Bureau of the Department of Mathematics of the Russian Academy of Sciences, in the formation and development of the Republican Academy of Sciences, he was a vice-president of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Bashkortostan, an academician-secretary of the Department of Physical, Mathematical and Technical Sciences of the Academy. For a long time he headed the Council for the Defense of Candidate and Doctoral Theses (in specializations 01.01.01 and 01.01.02) in the Institute of Mathematics. Under his leadership, "Ufa Mathematical Journal" became a recognized scientific journal. Till the end of his life, he directed the work of the seminar on the theory of functions and complex analysis in the Institute, the active work of which he considered as his constant task, the most important condition for the development of mathematical analysis in Ufa. The merits of V.V. Napalkov as a scientist, teacher and organizer of science was appreciated by the state: in 1999 he was awarded the medal of the Order of Merit for the Fatherland, II degree. The blessed memory of Valentin Vasilievich Napalkov, a worthy successor of the traditions laid down by his teacher, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences Alexei Fedorovich Leontiev, will forever remain in our hearts.