

Preface

Special Issue dedicated to the memory of Dr. Piet Leclercq (1942–2000)



This issue of *Spectroscopy: An International Journal* is dedicated to the memory of its deceased European Editor Piet Leclercq, an office he had held from 1994 till his death¹.

Petrus Antonius Leclercq was born on 19 February 1942 in Heerlen. Here he graduated in 1959 from the St. Bernardinus College and subsequently he devoted himself to studies in music and in chemistry. In 1967 he obtained the Ir. degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Technology at Eindhoven. Starting with this year he was employed there at the Laboratory of Instrumental Analysis, and in 1972 he became head of the mass spectrometry group. 1970/71 he spent a sabbatical year at the Institute for Lipid Research, Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. In 1975 he obtained his Dr. degree

¹An obituary written by Professor Karel Cramers of the Eindhoven University of Technology can be found in the previous issue of this journal, *Spectroscopy: An International Journal* **14**(3) (2000), 83–84.

after submitting a thesis entitled “Some applications of mass spectrometry in biochemistry”. In 1985 he was appointed associate professor. Piet Leclercq was a member of the American, British, Dutch and German Societies for Mass Spectrometry and he was president of the Dutch Society 1980–1983.

Piet Leclercq’s Ir. graduation work was on pyrolysis gas chromatography, and gas chromatography in combination with mass spectrometry and computer techniques remained his major field of research. His publication list has over 200 entries, many on the investigation of plant essential oils. He was very disappointed that his line of research was not to be continued in Eindhoven, as he told me shortly before his death. Piet Leclercq was one of the most active researchers in the field of mass spectrometry. He and his work will not be forgotten.

Köln, September 2000
Herbert Budzikiewicz