

Mihai GABROVEANU¹

**IN MEMORIAM:
PROFESSOR DOCTOR ION VĂDUVA (1936-2023)**

The academic community grieves the loss of Professor Dr. Ion Văduva, a prominent figure in the fields of Romanian mathematics and informatics, whose illustrious career extended over five decades. Professor Ion Văduva, distinguished faculty member at the University of Bucharest's Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics, peacefully departed from this world on 11 July 2023.

Professor Ion Văduva graduated from the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics of the University of Bucharest in 1960, and his thirst for knowledge propelled him to obtain his doctorate in 1968 with the thesis "*Contributions to the theory of statistical estimates of distribution densities and applications*". His intellectual curiosity for informatics led him further, obtaining a Master of Science in Automatic Computation from the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST) in 1969.

Professor Ion Văduva's impact went far beyond the classroom. His research on statistical estimation and queueing systems made significant contributions to the field. He held the position of scientific researcher at the "Simion Stoilov" Institute of Mathematics of the Romanian Academy (1960-1964), principal researcher and then head of sector at the Center of Mathematical Statistics of the Romanian Academy (1964-1979). Starting from 1970, he held the position of Associate Professor at the Faculty of

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Mathematics and Informatics of the University of Bucharest and then a professor starting from 1991. He was technical director and director at the Computing Center of the University of Bucharest in the period 1970-1993, playing an essential role in developing and promoting informatics in Romania. Generations of computer scientists benefitted from his leadership and vision.

Professor Ion Văduva was a pioneer in Romanian informatics education, one of the architects of university-level informatics education in the country. In 1972, along with Professor Dragoş Vaida, he developed the academic curriculum for the Informatics field, established within all five mathematics faculties in Romania that same year.

The University of Craiova awards the title of *Doctor Honoris Causa* to Professor Ion Văduva on 17 November 2015.

Professor Văduva was a veritable mentor, he guided over 60 students to the successful completion of their PhD theses at the University of Bucharest, including myself, Mihai Gabroveanu. As my PhD supervisor, Professor Ion Văduva's guidance proved invaluable in shaping my path as a researcher. His unwavering support and encouragement were instrumental in the completion of my doctoral thesis. For all of this and his dedication, I am deeply grateful.

Professor Ion Văduva's academic contributions will continue to inspire future generations of mathematicians and computer scientists, leaving an enduring legacy that transcends the bounds of time. His passion for knowledge, his dedication to excellence, and his unwavering commitment to his students will forever remain etched in the annals of academia.

Rest in peace, dear Professor Doctor Ion Văduva. Your brilliance will continue to shine brightly in the hearts and minds of all who had the privilege of knowing you.

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