



Annie Valérie Dhondt (4 January 1942 – 1 September 2006)

An intense life has come to an abrupt end.

Lately, the ‘Cretaceous world’ had already been confronted with the demise of Max-Gotthard Schulz (24 January 2000), Gundolf Ernst (24 April 2002), Walter Kegel Christensen (18 October 2002), Jake Michael Hancock (4 March 2004) and Ehrhard Voigt (22 November 2004), and now another prominent scientist and amiable person has been taken from our midst.

An end to a short life - too short, and full of health problems, yet a fulfilled one.

Overall, Annie was friendly and approachable, and in fact had no qualms with anyone in particular, yet occasionally knew how to be austere, business-like and reserved, if provoked. However, she always stuck to the ‘rules of the game’.

A working life. Classical music in her amazing ‘double office’, as departmental head at the Institut royal des Sciences naturelles de Belgique (Brussels), and not-to-miss piles of stacked paper, offprints and manuscripts make for long-lasting memories. Coffee and biscuits, or chocolate.

At times burning the candle at both ends, as managing editor of the Earth Science series of the Bulletin published by the institute; with a keen eye for detail, and an opinion not always mild, but very rarely *not* to the point!

Member of various working groups of the international commission of Cretaceous stratigraphy, and in recent years, even vice-chairperson. An ‘honourable’ job which brought many a stressful moment.

A personality not to be missed at congresses and symposia, respected by most peers. Talks given by her characteristically were delivered in a rather high-pitched voice – as soon as she spoke in her mother tongue, Flemish, at times even with a hint of Ghent urban dialect, that was a totally different matter.

In addition to Flemish (Dutch), Annie was fluent in French, English and German, and even knew how to communicate well in Russian. She had mastered that language at a time when most of us were told that the Soviet Union was our fiercest adversary, and even until recently did she have lessons in Russian. Is there better proof of her respect for all things Russian? Her financial and material support of a number of colleagues at Moscow State University is another good example - students at the Moscow University field station in Crimea will sorely miss their ‘auntie Anni’ during next summer.

More fond memories come to mind now, but those are for later. Having been a renowned specialist of Late Cretaceous bivalves, and of pteriomorphs in particular, Annie’s death means a heavy loss. In fact, I think it will prove impossible to fill her place, ever.

An active scientist and amiable person has been taken from us; for me personally also a dear friend, whom I shall never forget.

John W.M. Jagt
1 October 2006

Below is a list, by no means complete, of Annie’s papers, illustrating her expertise:

1967

DHONDT, A.V. Het fossielhoudend Ieperlaan van Merelbeke, III. Mollusken. *Natuurwetenschappelijk Tijdschrift*, 48 (1966), 218-220.

1971

DHONDT, A.V. Systematic revision of *Entolium*, *Propeamussium* (Amusiidae) and *Syncyclonema* (Pectinidae, Bivalvia, Mollusca) of the European boreal Cretaceous. *Bulletin de l’Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Sciences de la Terre*, 47 (32), 1-95.

1972

DHONDT, A.V. Systematic revision of the Chlamydiinae (Pectinidae, Bivalvia, Mollusca) of the European Cretaceous. Part 1: *Camptonectes*. *Bulletin de l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Sciences de la Terre*, 48 (3), 1-60.

DHONDT, A.V. Systematic revision of the Chlamydiinae (Pectinidae, Bivalvia, Mollusca) of the European Cretaceous. Part 2: *Lyropecten*. *Bulletin de l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Sciences de la Terre*, 48 (7), 1-81.

1973

DHONDT, A.V. Systematic revision of the Chlamydiinae (Pectinidae, Bivalvia, Mollusca) of the European Cretaceous. Part 3: *Chlamys* and *Mimachlamys*. *Bulletin de l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Sciences de la Terre*, 49 (1), 1-134.

DHONDT, A.V. Systematic revision of the subfamily Neitheinae (Pectinidae, Bivalvia, Mollusca) of the European Cretaceous. *Mémoires de l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique*, 176, 1-99.

1976

DHONDT, A.V. Systematic revision of the Chlamydiinae (Pectinidae, Bivalvia, Mollusca) of the European Cretaceous. Part 4: *Merklinia*. *Bulletin de l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Sciences de la Terre*, 52 (7), 1-38.

1979

DHONDT, A.V. *Tenuipteria geulemensis* (Mollusca: Bivalvia), an inoceramid species from the Upper Maastrichtian of the Sint Pietersberg area, the Netherlands. *Annales de la Société Royal de Zoologie de Belgique*, 108 (3-4) (1978), 141-149.

1982

DHONDT, A.V. Répartition des bivalves (sans inocéramides ou rudistes) dans le Crétacé moyen. *Cretaceous Research*, 2 (3-4) (1981), 307-318.

DHONDT, A.V. Bivalvia (Mollusca) from the Maastrichtian of Hemmoor (NW Germany) and their palaeobiogeographical affinities. *Geologisches Jahrbuch*, A61, 73-107.

1983

DHONDT, A.V. Campanian and Maastrichtian inoceramids: a review. *Zitteliana*, 10, 689-701.

DHONDT, A.V. Tegulated inoceramids and Maastrichtian biostratigraphy. *Newsletter on Stratigraphy*, 12 (1), 43-53.

DHONDT, A.V. An inoceramid-like limid of Late Maastrichtian age from Maastricht. *Bulletin de l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Sciences de la Terre*, 55 (3), 1-10.

DHONDT, A.V. Some Spanish Cretaceous bivalves. *Cuadernos de Geología Ibérica*, 8, 847-865.

1984

DHONDT, A.V. The unusual Cenomanian oyster *Pycnodonte biauriculatum*. *Géobios, Mémoire Spécial*, 8, 53-61.

DHONDT, A.V. Les bivalves et la transition Crétacé-Tertiaire. *Bulletin de la Section des Sciences Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale Paris*, 6, 85-86.

1985

DHONDT, A.V. Late Cretaceous bivalves from the A10 exposures in northern Aquitaine. *Cretaceous Research*, 6, 33-74.

DHONDT, A.V. Bivalves ptériomorphes du Sénonien dans le Bassin parisien et le sud-ouest de la France. *Géologie Méditerranéenne*, 10 (3-4) (1983), 213-218.

1987

DHONDT, A.V. & JAGT, J.W.M. Bivalvia uit de Kalksteen van Vijlen in Hallembaye (België). *Grondboor en Hamer*, 41, 78-90.

DHONDT, A.V. Bivalves from the Hochmoos Formation (Gosau-Group, Oberösterreich, Austria). *Annalen des Naturhistorischen Museum in Wien*, 88A, 41-101.

1988

DHONDT, A.V. & DIENI, I. Early Cretaceous bivalves of eastern Sardinia. *Memorie di Scienze Geologiche*, 40, 1-97.

1989

DHONDT, A.V. & DIENI, I. The Sardinian Early Cretaceous bivalves and their paleobiogeographic affinities. In: WIEDMANN, J. (Ed.). *Cretaceous of the western Tethys*, 281-297. Schweizerbart, Stuttgart.

DHONDT, A.V. & JAGT, J.W.M. Upper Cretaceous *Liopistha* species in north western Europe. *Bulletin de l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Sciences de la Terre*, 58 (1988), 187-197.

1990

DHONDT, A.V. Late Cretaceous *Limea* (*Pseudolimea*) species of Europe. *Bulletin de l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Sciences de la Terre*, 59 (1989), 105-125.

- DHONDT, A.V. & DIENI, I. An unusual inoceramid-spondylid association from the Cretaceous Scaglia Rossa of Passo del Brocon (Trento, N. Italy) and its palaeoecological significance. *Memorie di Scienze Geologiche*, 42, 155-187.
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- DHONDT, A.V. & DIENI, I. Rudist-associated Cretaceous bivalves. *Saito Ho-on Kai Special Publication*, 3, 193-200.
- 1992**
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- 1993**
- DHONDT, A.V. Upper Cretaceous bivalves from Tercis, Landes, SW France. *Bulletin de l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Sciences de la Terre*, 63, 211-259.
- DHONDT, A.V. & DIENI, I. Non-rudistid bivalves from Lst Cretaceous rudist limestones of NE Italy (Col dei Schiosi and Lago di S. Croce areas). *Memorie di Scienze Geologiche*, 45, 165-241.
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