ANDRZEJ M. RADWAŃSKI

24th July 1934 – 7th January 2016

Professor Andrzej Radwański died peacefully at the age of 81 on January 7, 2016. Active in the science he loved to the end of his life, his death took from us a much loved husband, father, grandfather and colleague. Geology lost one of the masters of the subject, who roamed over close on half a billion years of earth history with consummate ease. He is survived by his wife Ula, son Michał, daughter-in-law Ania, and granddaughters Alicja and Isabel. He is survived, too, by an extended family of colleagues and students who owe him so much.

Andrzej Marian Radwański was born on July 24, 1934, in Lwów (Lviv in Ukrainian), then in eastern Poland, currently in western Ukraine. In 1938, his family moved to Warsaw, where his father worked for a bank, and where Andrzej lived for the rest of his life. The Family spent his early years, including the war years 1939–1945, in the suburban town of Milanów.

Andrzej was an outstanding scholar from his school days at Tadeusz Rejtan Warsaw High-School. His classmate, life-long friend and research collaborator Professor Wacław Baluk described him as being in a class of his own. His first university experience was in the Faculty of Chemistry of the University of Warsaw. A year later, in 1953, he transferred to the Faculty of Geology, where he was to remain for the rest of his career.

He was awarded his Master’s degree in 1959, with a thesis entitled A petrographic study of the Lower Jurassic Lias sediments of the Tatra Mountains in southern Poland, and appointed to a Scientific Assistantship in the Faculty that same year. It is worth noting that although he graduated from the Department of Petrography of Sedimentary Rocks, he started his research career in the Department of Dynamic Geology, which at the time was led by Professor Edward Passendorfer, an outstanding figure of Polish geology at that time. The team of young researchers gathered around Professor Passendorfer was inspired to undertake ambitious projects in line with the modern trends in world geology; equally importantly, Professor Passendorfer taught them to publish in good journals – in the English language. Radwański conducted his doctoral research under the guidance of Professor Maria Turnau-Morawska, with a dissertation entitled The petrography and sedimentology of the Upper Triassic Rhaetic sediments of the Tatra Mts. He was awarded his doctorate in 1964, and was immediately appointed to an Assistant Professorship in the Faculty. His thesis research was published in 1968, and is still held in high esteem by workers in the area (It was, however, to be his last contribution on the Tatras: he promised himself never to return to the difficult field conditions and permanent rain, a promise he apparently kept: Łuczyński and Jezierska, this volume).

In 1970, at the age of 36, immediately after earning his Habilitation and appointment to Associate Professor, he became Chair of the Department of Dynamic Geology, Tectonics and Geological Cartography in the Faculty of Geology of the University of Warsaw. In 1972, the Department was divided into two, and Andrzej became Chair of the Department of Dynamic Geology, a post he held (with a short break) until his retirement (see Szulczewski 2016, p. 618). In 1978 he was elected vice-Dean of the Faculty, a position he held until 1980. In 1978 he was awarded the title of Extraordinary Professor, and in 1986 that of full Professor.

Leaving the Tatras, Andrzej applied his geological expertise and mastery of modern concepts and techniques to a diversity of projects, from Cambrian trace fossil associations to Jurassic stromatolites and Mesozoic sedimentary structures – and ultimately, to the Miocene of the Fore-Carpathian Basin, an area of widespread exposures, diverse facies, and rich faunas. It was a project that became his life-long inspiration, with close to half of his numerous publications devoted to it. Through his intense studies he was able to paint a comprehensive panorama of evolution and life of the Miocene sea, emerging in front of the rising Carpathians. Unsprisingly, the Miocene was the subject of his Habilitation dissertation. Through most of his career Andrzej gradually transitioned his academic focus from petrography and carbonate sedimentology (which was his initial passion), towards palaeoecology and behavioral ecology, which were the main and the most valued contributions of his publications.

Andrzej spent the 1973–74 academic year at the University of Aarhus, Denmark. The visit was a re-
Text-fig. 2. Upper-left: With the Danish students on the field excursion to Poland, 1974. Upper-right: During the Field Conference Pokos 2006 in western Ukraine, a cigarette break. Lower: A lecture during the Field Conference Pokos 2006; Anna Wysocka holds a poster; Gleboviti section, western Ukraine.
sult of his participation in an excursion organised by the Geological Society of Denmark to Poland in July 1972. He made such a strong impression on Professor Gunnar Larson, the leader of the excursion, that he was offered a year-long visiting professorship, during which he worked on the Danish Miocene and organised a field trip to Poland for Danish students. He retained strong ties to Danish geology thereafter.

Andrzej passed his passion for the Miocene of the Fore-Carpathian Basin on to dozens of co-workers and students, and invited numerous others, from both Poland and abroad, to collaborate with him unraveling the rich geologic tapestry of the region. His chief collaborator all over these years, however, remained Professor Bałuk. They complemented each other: Radwański with his extensive knowledge of physical geology and biosedimentology (according to his own terminology, a discipline that merges dynamic geology, sedimentology, taphonomy and palaeoecology, and classic palaeontology) and Bałuk, with his meticulous taxonomic work, which embraced various invertebrate groups (particularly gastropods). Radwański and Bałuk brought the Miocene assemblages and environments of the Fore-Carpathian Basin to life. Radwański wrote numerous publications on this basin, both as a sole author and with collaborators: his 1968, 1969, and 1973 summary papers have withstood the test of time. He was the initiator and editor of three special volumes on the Miocone (published in Acta Geologica Polonica), dedicated primarily to the Korytnica locality, exceptional due to the wealth of fossils and environments represented. These volumes brought together the results of research by specialists from Poland and across Europe. The monographs of Wacław Bałuk on gastropods (Bałuk 1975, 1995, 1997, 2003, 2006), became the *rara avis* of Polish palaeontology. Andrzej furthermore investigated critical Miocene localities in Austria, Yugoslavia, Germany, Hungary, Malta, Greece, Denmark, and across Europe as a whole. Such efforts provided a wider perspective on the phenomena observed in ‘his basin’, one enhanced by the wealth of material and information presented to him by his colleagues and collaborators from across the continent. This may appear straightforward to the reader, requiring only time and some money, but nothing was quite that simple in Poland of the late 1960’s and 1970’s.

At the age of 71, his love of the Miocone brought Andrzej back to Lviv (Lwów), his birthplace which he had left in 1938. In 2005, Anna Wysocka, a younger colleague from his Department, included him in a project devoted to the Miocene basin of western Ukraine, an eastern extention of the Polish Fore-Carpathian Basin. Lviv was the first stop on the road to the field. The family bonds, nostalgia, and scientific curiosity brought him both to places he had never visited before and to the town of his early childhood.

Besides the Miocene, a further passion of Andrzej was ichnology – the study of trace fossils. This can be seen in his Tatra thesis, in his Miocene studies, and other projects of varying scales, which he pursued through his life; indeed, at times it became the main topic of his research. He published extensively on Cambrian, Devonian, Jurassic, Cretaceous, and Miocene trace fossils and attended numerous ichnological conferences during his scientific career.

The Cretaceous was always among the themes that fascinated Andrzej, but it became a research focus for him as a result of a close collaboration with Ryszard Marcinowski, his former doctoral student. Indeed, this was where my involvement with Andrzej began, as one of Ryszard’s research students. Andrzej spent weeks working with me on my Ph.D. thesis, preparing the entire manuscript for publication in his journal, *Acta Geologica Polonica.* He offered me an enormous amount of his time, discussing various aspects of the paper (and, I should add, inducting me into the secrets of the editorial world). He devoted his time and energy to *Acta* for over 30 years, at first as the scientific secretary in 1968, and later as Editor-in-Chief in 1982–2002, transforming it into an internationally recognised and respected publication with a global audience.

Andrzej’s scientific contributions were recognised with the country’s highest awards. His Ph.D. thesis was awarded by the Ministry of Higher Education and his Habilitation by the Chair of the Division of Mathematical, Physical, Chemical and Geological–Geographical Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences. But beyond his research, however, Andrzej was a teacher. His lectures on general geology were renowned among his students for their scope, unique presentation, and rich imagery, which he brought together through links with his global collaborators, and his extensive travels (the accumulation of such a rich photographic archive was not quite so easy before the fall of communism in Poland, and before the age of the internet). He led various seminars and field courses for masters and doctoral students, remembered as both challenging and inspiring by those who attended. To the very last lecture he gave, his obsession with every detail of the presentation was commendable. But besides these formal hours, he was a teacher on every occasion that he could share his knowledge. He super-
vised a long list of masters students, and 10 doctoral students, all of whom went on to gain subsequent recognition within our field. He organised meetings with newcomers to geology, always seeking to pass on his passion for the subject to new generations of students. He contributed to a student text-book on Dynamic Geology, *Laboratory Manual on Dynamic Geology*, first published in 1966 – and still in use after seven subsequent editions – and that on the Neogene part in *Historical Geology* (1977).

Andrzej Radwański was at times larger than life. Easily recognisable by the unique sound of his voice and accompanying gesticulations, it was never clear if this was a performance or the reality of the man. A rigorous examiner at all levels, he was always ready to share everything (with the notable exception, perhaps, of a good fossil) with any student who revealed a sign of interest in science. Under his tutelage, generations of faculty members were taught how to write proper scientific texts, and take them forward, successfully, to publication – a process in which he was always read to spend hours helping his younger colleagues and newcomers to the subject. He seemed to know everything about geology (and Polish geology, for sure); his questions after lectures were guaranteed to inspire fear and panic in the speaker. An entertaining speaker himself, he regaled informal meetings with amusing stories. He possessed an incredible memory: a persistent rumor was that he trained this faculty by memorizing an entire telephone directory (his Family were unable to confirm this, however).

Andrzej Radwański was a naturalist in the widest sense. He collected mushrooms, with comprehensive knowledge of every species; he collected post marks and coins, but only those that portrayed plants and animals. Rare plants were nurtured and cherished, and he seemed to know the name of every plant and animal he encountered. He was fascinated by sports – not as a participant, but as an observer, ideally installed in a comfortable armchair. He knew every name, every date, every score: he watched every game. He even once applied (unsuccessfully, however!) to be hired as a sports commentator: his unique voice failed to capture the imagination of his prospective employer. It was a good day for geology.

With his death, Polish geology has lost a great scientist, mentor, and teacher.

**Acknowledgements**

Wacław Bałuk, Grzegorz Barczyk, Henrik Friis, Jim Kennedy, Marcin Machalski, Jan Piotrowski, Urszula Radwańska, Michał Szulczewski, Jordan Todes, Anna Wysocka and Anna Żylińska contributed in various ways.

**REFERENCES**


Bałuk, W. 1997. Middle Miocene (Badenian) Gastropods from Korytnica, Poland; Part III. *Acta Geologica Polonica*, 47, 1–75.


Ireneusz Walaszczyk

Faculty of Geology, University of Warsaw, Żwirki i Wigury 93, PL-02-089 Warszawa, Poland.

E-mail: i.walaszczyk@uw.edu.pl
Species of fossils named for Andrzej Radwański


Atrina radwanski Jakubowski, G. 1977; A new species of large pinnid pelecypods from the Korytnica basin (Middle Miocene; Holy Cross Mountains, Poland). Acta Geologica Polonica, 27, 212–214. Pteriomorph bivalve.


Chelidonura radwanski Baluk, 2018 [this volume]; A new heterobranch gastropod, Chelidonura radwanski sp. nov., from the middle Miocene of the Korytnica Basin (Holy Cross Mountains, Poland). Acta Geologica Polonica, 68, 499–502. Gastropod species.

Dinocelus radwanski Fraaije et al., 2018 [this volume]; New lobsters (Decapoda, Nephropoidea) from the Cretaceous–Paleogene section of the Middle Vistula valley, east-central Poland. Acta Geologica Polonica, 68, 503–509. Lobster species.

Chronological list of publications of which Andrzej M. Radwański is an author


Radwański, A. 1959. Researches on petrography of the hightatic Lias. Przegląd Geologiczny, 7(8), 359–362. [In Polish]


Radwański, A. 1960. Lead and zinc deposits Trepcza (Stary Trg) in Yugoslavia. Przegląd Geologiczny, 8 (3), 161–164. [In Polish]


Radwański, A. 1960. Copper deposits in Bor (Yugoslavia). Przegląd Geologiczny, 8 (6), 339–340. [In Polish]


Radwański, A. 1968. Petrographical and sedimentological studies of the high-tatric Rhaetic in the Tatra Mountains. Studia Geologica Polonica, 25, 1–146. [In Polish with English summary]


Barczyk, W. and Radwański, A. 1968. Museum of Geological Faculty at Warsaw University. Przegląd Geologiczny, 16 (2), 87–88. [In Polish]


Baluk, W. and Radwański, A. 1977. The colony regeneration and life habitat of free-living bryozoans, *Cupuladria catariensis* (Busk) and *C. haidingeri* (Reuss), from the Korytnica Clays (Middle Miocene; Holy Cross Mountains, Poland). *Acta Geologica Polonica*, **27**, 143–156.


Baluk, W. and Radwański, A. 1979. Boring fenestrate bryo- zonas from the Korytnica Clays (Middle Miocene; Holy


