

PROFESSOR WALTER PHILIPP DIED

Walter Philipp passed away on July 19, 2006 unexpectedly after a mountain tour near Graz (Austria). Walter Philipp was born on December 14, 1936 in Austria, he earned a Ph.D. in mathematics at the University of Vienna in 1960. After teaching at the University of Vienna, he joined the faculty at the University of Illinois in 1964 and was a Professor Emeritus in the Department of Statistics and Mathematics. Professor Philipp was also a faculty member at the Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology, serving as a member of the Computational Electronics group and Molecular and Electronic Nanostructures research initiative. He was an internationally known expert in the areas of probability theory, number theory, and mathematical approaches to statistics. In particular, he published substantial contributions to probabilistic number theory and to limit theorems in probability theory. He published about 90 research papers among them a proof of a well-known conjecture of P. Erdős concerning the law of the iterated logarithm for lacunary sequences. Professor Philipp was a member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, a Fellow at the Institute for Mathematical Statistics and an editor of the Journal on Uniform Distribution Theory. As a well-known mountaineer, he made many important climbs in the Alps. The Philipp-Flamm route in the Dolomites, for which he was named one of the top 100 climbers of the century, is considered a rite of passage for many famous climbers. A more detailed obituary on Walter Philipp will be published in the Monatshefte für Mathematik. A complete list of his publications can be found in the MathSciNet.

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