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Great People and Eminent Mathematicians

I am listing below some names of great people, at the same time eminent mathematicians, who have helped me along my unfavorable moments of my life.

I was born in a little poor village located Muntenia steppe (Baragan). Due to a midwife incompetence, I have bear a severe moving control handicap, with which I have struggled all my existence. Some great teachers and professors encouraged me to overcome my disability and to accomplish my education. I have done my best to pay in return for the confidence of any people who has helped me. I was priviledged by the support of my professors Miron Nicolescu and Grigore C. Moisil and I passed my Ph.D. thesis in June 1964.

Right from the start of my scientific research, I have been fully aware of functional methods, which do not provide only more generality than those obtained by classical procedures in partial differential equations, but also unify results and techniques.

In the spring of 1974, I took part of a session of Partial Differential Equations in Oberwolfach (Germany) where I contacted several experts in my field of interesse. I met Peter Hess (Zurich) who helped me complete the English version of my monograph concerning the monotone-like operators.I would like to point out also ProfessorWolfgang L. Wendland, who took up my Ph.D. thesis contribution regarding some elliptic normal systems and called them "Pascali Systems".

During the abolition of the Mathematical Institute in 1975, I was working as a visiting professor at Rome. After returning to Romania, the Dean Ionel Bucur aided me in obtaining a position at the Research Centre under the University in Bucharest. After that, a difficult period of my existence began. Although I managed competently this centre, the communist leadership of the Central Institute of Mathematics pursued a political harassment against me. I had to leave Romania in 1980, thus being separated by my wife and children for a rather significant period of time (of eight long years). Thanks to Professor W.L. Wendland's help, I gained a Humboldt fellowship for two years at Darmstadt. Afterward, in 1983, I asked and received political asylum in USA. Assisted by the Professors F.E.Browder, L. Nirenberg, W.V.

Petryshyn, I. Stakgold and A. Bahri, I visited some remarkable American universities and obtained research grants. In the meantime, I published numerous papers in Libertas Mathematica edited by Professor. Constantin Corduneanu. In 1994, my old friend and collaborator, ProfessorS.F.Sburlan, offered me a professorship at the "Ovidius" University - Constantza.

Last but not the least it is worth remarking the brotherly relationship between my family and Professor Emeric Deutsch, I met him in New York at the Courant library after twenty years. I am proud that I had Professor Ioan Cuculescu as an university colleague and now as a close friend. I respect immensely his competence and erudition. It is a pity that I am not able to mention all of mathematicians and non-mathematicians who have offered their friendship during my existence.

The main fulfillment of my professional life is reflected in the quotations of my work by specialists around the world. Nevertheless, I am aware there is room for better.

Thank you so much to all participants to my 70th anniversary as well to the people who contributed at the special issue of the Annals, dedicated to this occasion.

Dan D. Pascali