

IN MEMORIAM

KRZYSZTOF KWARECKI

(1938 - 2002)



Professor Dr Krzysztof Kwarecki's sudden death on September 10, 2002, is a great loss to the Polish scientific polar community. Educated as a medical doctor he served as a colonel in the Polish Army and, in the years 1981–1994, held the high rank of vice commander and eventually commander of the Medical Institute of the Air Force in Warsaw. Since 1997 he worked in the Central Institute for Labor Protection in Warsaw. For over 30 years, Professor Krzysztof Kwarecki was closely connected with the Polish polar scientific community. An excellent physician, he was responsible for the health of candidates and participants of the staff of the permanent Polish polar stations and seasonal expeditions to Antarctica and Arctica. He took part in two expeditions to Western Antarctica and one expedition to Arctica in the region of Svalbard Archipelago taking care of the participants' health. He also made his own outstanding contributions to polar medical research. He studied the psycho-physical abilities of humans under extreme conditions of polar regions.

Professor Krzysztof Kwarecki was a member of the Committee on Polar Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences. He was also a member of the SCAR Working Group: Human Biology and Medicine and a member of the International Society for Chronobiology (Little Rock, USA) and European Society of Chronobiology. He was a vice president of the prestigious War-



94 In memoriam

saw Medical Society established in 1828. He worked for the Commission of Medical Ethics. A man of great integrity, he fulfilled all his social responsibilities with sensitivity and a sharp sense of duty. He will be sadly missed by us.

Krzysztof's funeral was held at the Military Cemetery "Powązki" in Warsaw on September 18, 2002. He was burried with full military honors, presented by the Honor Guard of the Polish Army. Holy Mass was celebrated and a homily was delivered by General Sławoj Leszek Głódź, the Field Bishop of the Polish Army.

Aleksander GUTERCH
Chairman
Committee on Polar Research
Polish Academy of Sciences