

Jean-Louis Laclare – In Memoriam

We have learned with great sadness that Jean-Louis Laclare passed away on 17 April 2003.

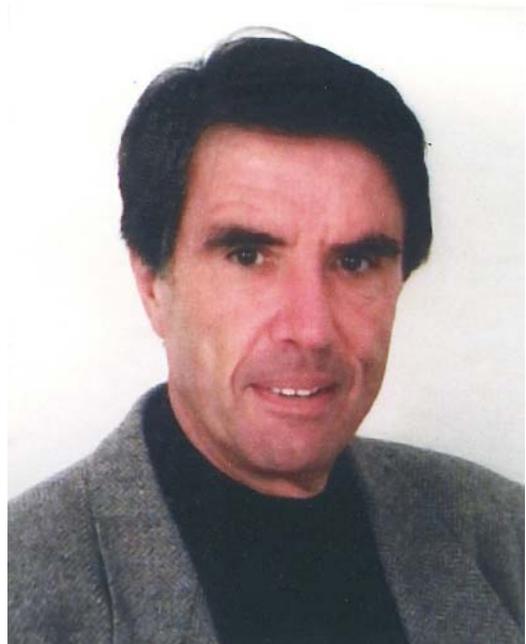
Jean-Louis was an accelerator physicist of international reputation. In particular, his work on beam instabilities is a reference for many accelerator physicists. Jean-Louis devoted his entire professional life to particle accelerators. He started his career at the Saturne Laboratory in Saclay near Paris in 1969. Jean Louis joined the synchrotron radiation community in 1986 when he moved from Paris to Grenoble to lead the construction of the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility in the capacity of Project Director. It is in this role that he gave full scope to his talent. Nowadays third-generation light sources flourish everywhere, but in 1988 the ESRF was the first third-generation synchrotron source under construction in the world. A number of issues, such as the feasibility of the strong focusing lattice (sensitivity to errors, small dynamic aperture, etc.) or the use of a large number of high-performance undulators operating simultaneously without interfering from one beamline to the other, were considered to be advanced and risky by many experts.

In 1996, with the ESRF machine having reached a stable state while surpassing all the original target performances, Jean-Louis decided to take up the new challenge of the French light source project SOLEIL. However, illness prevented him from pursuing this activity.

During these years, and despite his heavy workload, Jean-Louis initiated the Future Light Sources Subpanel of the ICFA Beam Dynamics panel with his customary talent and vision. The Fourth Generation Light Sources ICFA Workshop that he organized in 1996 was the first of the Future Light Sources Workshop series and gave a major impetus to SASE-driven sources.

All the colleagues who had the chance of working with him and learning from him will miss Jean-Louis. Through his major accomplishments, the synchrotron scientific community is greatly indebted to him.

A. Ropert



Jean-Louis Laclare
(1942-2003)