

Professor Manuel Casteleiro passed away at his home in A Coruña, Spain last April 22nd 2021. He was 74 years old.

After earning a degree in Civil Engineering from the Madrid Polytechnic University, he moved to the United States to pursue Master's and PhD degrees in Civil Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Northwestern University, respectively.

He then returned to Spain in 1975 and became a faculty member at the Civil Engineering School of the Polytechnic University of Catalonia. He played a critical role in the growth of the institution, where he also served as Vice-Dean, and started the Applied Mathematics Department.

In 1992 he moved to Galicia, where he served as one of the inaugural Faculty of the Civil Engineering School of A Coruña, its Director (2005-2013), and also Vice-Dean of the University. He became Emeritus Professor in 2017, and he continued to work until just a few weeks before his passing.

Manolo, as he was known by friends, family, and students, was an extraordinary teacher, who decisively influenced the training of over 40 graduating classes of engineers in the two schools where he served as faculty member. He was an outstanding scholar, and contributed to the development of the field of numerical methods and computational mechanics. He was one of the main promoters of CIMNE (The International Center for Numerical Methods in Engineering), and SEMNI (The Spanish Society of Numerical Methods in Engineering) and was a member of the General Council of the International Association for Computational Mechanics (IACM). He was an internationally recognized researcher and many of his students went on to pursue graduate degrees in the United States and some are now faculty members of leading institutions, such as Alberto Figueroa at Michigan, Hector Gomez at Purdue and Ruben Juanes at MIT. Manolo was a regular participant of both the USNCCM and the WCCM meetings and in 2017 he received the Olgierd C. Zienkiewicz award from SEMNI in recognition of his outstanding career.

Manolo was a true leader, an inspiring figure, and a great man. He strived to better the world through science, engineering, and technology. He always held to the highest academic standards and was a man of integrity and honesty. He will be missed by scores of colleagues and former students.

Manolo is survived by his three children, all engineers: Paloma, Manuel, and Alex. We offer sincerest condolences to his children, his wife Cuca, and Alex's mother Adita.