

## Paul von Ragué Schleyer 1930-2014



An IAQMS member, Prof. Paul von Ragué Schleyer, passed away on November 20 at the age of 84. He was a giant in both experimental and computational physical organic/main group chemistry, and his passing marks an end of an era. His contributions were legion, from opening the chemistry of adamantane, to elucidating reaction mechanisms and the role of intermediates, to making a decisive contribution to the conclusion of the non-classical carbocation debate, to developing an understanding of hyperconjugation, aromaticity, strain, NMR chemical shifts and the NICS concept, to producing a unified view of electron-deficient species by removing the borders between carbocations, boron clusters, and compounds of lithium, to predicting innumerable new and very novel structures .... The list could continue. His incisive intellect, critical thinking, truly original creativity, and boundless imagination and enthusiasm inspired awe. Yet, he was very approachable and friendly, and it was always a joy to find an opportunity to spend a little time with him. He will be missed by many.

A more complete summary of his life is provided in a C&EN article:

<http://cen.acs.org/articles/92/web/2014/11/Paul-von-RaguSchleyer-Dies-84.html>.

Josef Michl, November 29, 2014