

Eulogy for Zhores Ivanovich Alferov Nobel Prize Winner and NanoWorld Journal Editorial Board Member

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Introduction

Saturday March 01, 2019 Zhores Ivanovich Alferov (Figure 1), a Russian physicist and Nobel Laureate since 2000, has died in Saint Petersburg by cardiopulmonary failure at the age of 88 years. Dr. Alferov was born in Vitebsk, Byelorussian SSR, Soviet Union on March 15, 1930, graduating in 1952, from V.I. Ulyanov (Lenin) Electrotechnical Institute in Leningrad and starting to work at Ioffe Physico-Technical Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences in 1953. He was a close and a dear friend since 2008 when I became Foreign Member Russian Academy of Science and later between 2014 and 2019 when he became Editorial Board member of the NanoWorld Journal after its creation in San Francisco with myself as editor-in-chief. While I was in Paris for the fourth NanoWorld Conference during March 4-6, 2019 his death was announced in Moscow by the State Duma, the lower house of the Russian parliament, where Alferov had been a deputy since 1995. We are here deeply saddened to announce the loss of our NanoWorld Journal Advisory Board Member Zhores I. Alferov, expressing our deepest condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues.

It is a great loss for the scientific community. His research contributions and pioneering work with technology which is used in everything cannot be ignored. We are fortunate to be associated with him since the launch of NanoWorld Journal. Dr. Alferov will always be remembered for the words "All that was made by human beings, in principle, was made due to science" said while accepting his Nobel Prize.

Research Activity

He received Candidate of Sciences in Technology, and Doctor of Sciences in Physics and Mathematics scientific degree in 1961 and 1970 respectively. In the beginning, he worked in semiconductor area heterostructures and received Nobel prizes in 2000 along with other two American physicists on "For developing semiconductor heterostructures used in high-speed- and optoelectronics" which are been used in satellite communications and cellular telephones. When Dr. Alferov received the Nobel Prize he was the director of A.F. Ioffe Physico-Technical Institute in St. Petersburg. He later became chairman of the Russian Academy of Science's nanotechnology committee. His contributions to physics and technology of semiconductor heterostructures, especially investigations of injection properties, development of lasers, solar cells, LEDs, and epitaxy processes, have led to the creation of modern heterostructures physics and electronics. He had an almost messianic conception of heterostructures, writing: "Many scientists have contributed to this remarkable progress, which not only determines in large measure the future prospects of solid state physics but in a certain sense affects

the future of human society as well”.

Political Activity

Alferov was elected to the Russian Parliament, the State Duma, in 1995 as a deputy for the political party Our Home is Russia, linked to the policies of President Boris Yeltsin. In 1999 he was elected again, this time on the list of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation. He was re-elected in 2003 and again in 2007, when he was placed second on the party's federal electoral list behind Gennady Zyuganov, even though he was not a member of the party. In the Duma, he was later a member of the Communist Party and served on the committee for Eurasian integration and Commonwealth. Alferov was an atheist and expressed objections to religious education, although he was not against religion as such. He was one of the signers of the Open letter from the Members of the Russian Academy of Sciences against clericalisation of Russia.

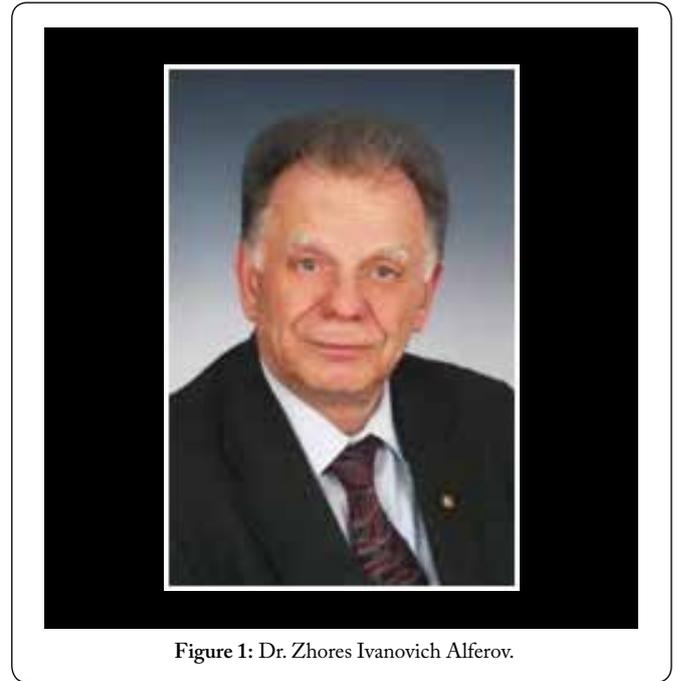


Figure 1: Dr. Zhores Ivanovich Alferov.