

Prof. Uttandaraman (UT, Kumar) Sundararaj Passing of a dear ABPol's friend.

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Recently we have heard the sad news of Prof. UT, as he was kindly called by everyone, has passed away. He was a value member of the Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering at Schulich in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. He did an undergraduate course of Chemical Engineering at University of Alberta, Canada and got his Ph.D. in 1996 from University of Minnesota, EUA. From 2000 to 2009 he was a Professor at University of Alberta, Canada and since then as a Professor and Schulich Industry Research Chair at University of Calgary, Canada.

He has published over 380 refereed publications, with more than 19.000 citations (ResearchGate). The most cited ones are listed below. Holds multiple patents and was among the top 1% of researchers in his field.

He received several prestigious awards like, Macromolecular Science and Engineering Award, Inducted into Canadian Academy of Engineering, Fellow of Society of Plastics Engineers, Fellow of Chemical Institute of Canada. He was the winner of the Morand Lambla Award in 2003, the conference chair of PPS 26 in 2010 in Banff, Canada, and supported the Polymer Processing Society as chair of the PPS Award Committee, a scientific community he has been involved in since his early carrier research.

He was not only an exceptional scientist, but also an excellent teacher receiving numerous recognitions such as Schulich Award for Excellence in Graduate Supervision, Teaching Leadership Award, Students' Union Teaching Excellence Award. Many of his students have described UT as much more than a supervisor, as being engaged with them as human beings, and felt like a father to them.

He participated in 5 editions of the Congresso Brasileiro de Polímeros **CBPol** (2011, 2013, 2015, 2019, 2025) and in the Simpósio Latino-Americano de Polímeros **SLAP** (2014), giving 2 plenary lectures and 6 oral contributions.

Beyond his professional achievements, he will always be remembered by his care with his family, wife Suzy, daughter, Arielle, son, Ethan, his mother, brothers and many relatives. He will be remembered for his kindness, generosity, and willingness to share his knowledge, a true source of inspiration, leaving an indelible mark on everyone who had the privilege to know and work with him.

We leave our sincere condolences to his family and loved ones.

With my deepest sympathy,

*Sebastião V. Canevarolo
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