

In memoriam: Professor Nguyen Tran (1943-2025) – an outstanding scientist and engineer in the microwave application area



It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Prof. Nguyen Tran, an admired lecturer, research leader, mentor, and friend, who dedicated his life to knowledge, creativity, and the people around him.

Born in 1943 in Vietnam, Nguyen Tran emigrated to Australia, where he graduated from Adelaide University, received a PhD degree, and became a professor. For more than four decades, Prof Tran was a cornerstone of the academic community at Deakin University, RMIT, and Swinburne universities in Australia, where he served as a lecturer and research lead.

Prof N. Tran has been working as a scientist and engineer in a wide range of electromagnetic field applications and has brought significant income to Microwave and RF Engineering, Antenna and Propagation, Microwave Technology, Electronics and Communication Engineering, Satellite Communication, and Antenna Design. He was a Member of AMPERE, IMPI, IEEE, Electric Energy Society of Australia, and other professional organisations, and has had a significant impact on the activity of these associations. After retirement, he developed “Mind Control Yoga”, a system of science-based yoga and meditation. This work created practices that integrate scientific principles to

achieve specific mind-body effects, focusing on aspects like attention, regulation, and stress relief. He published a book, “Mind Control Through Breath Regulation”, which has found readers all over the world.

Known for his brilliantly creative mind, he approached every challenge with originality and rigor, inspiring generations of students and colleagues. His work was not only marked by intellectual excellence but also by his eccentric humour and infectious laughter, which made even the most complex ideas feel approachable. To those who knew him personally, Nguyen Tran was far more than an academic. He was a dependable friend, a generous mentor, and a guiding light. Always willing to help, he gave freely of his time and wisdom, shaping the lives and careers of countless students. His sense of humour and quirky personality made him unforgettable, while his dedication and hard work earned him the deepest respect.

For 45 years, he was not only a supervisor and lecturer but also a true companion in the journey of learning and life. His legacy lives on in the minds he sharpened, the research he advanced, and the friendships he nurtured.

Nguyen Tran was a devoted family man. He shared his life with Fay Tran, an accomplished English teacher, and together they raised three children. Our heartfelt condolences are extended to his beloved wife, Fay, his children, grandchildren, and all his family, friends, former colleagues, and students.

Nguyen Tran's impact will be felt for generations to come. He will be remembered with gratitude, admiration, and affection by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Deeply missed
Grigori Torgovnikov

I have many fond memories of Nguyen during our countless meetings at IMPI, World Congress (the predecessor to the GCMEA) and AMPERE.

I recollect when he invited Bob Schiffmann and myself to the University in Melbourne to take part in a seminar he organised. After the seminar we all drove from Melbourne to Sydney for another meeting and took it in turns to drive the 876 km between the two cities. When it was my turn to drive, with Nguyen sitting in the passenger seat, as we approached the outskirts of Sydney, I became aware every now and then of a disconcerting noise coming from the right-hand part of the engine. Nguyen seemed worried, as was Bob, and every now and then as the noise became louder Nguyen would murmur something like "I had this problem before, so we better soon investigate". I became suspicious and suddenly turned towards Nguyen who could not suppress his laughter anymore. He was creating the

noise by banging the side of his door with his knuckles! That was typical of the playful Nguyen, who was no doubt encouraged by Bob, conspiring to play a ruse against me.

Nguyen was a fitness fanatic. At the AMPERE conference in Fermo in 1997 he would join Margaret in a late afternoon swim 2 or 3 times around the long island facing Fermo's sandy beach. On another occasion when he came to stay with us in Cambridge, I suggested that we go to the local leisure centre for exercise and a swim. He insisted on jogging there and back even though it was 5 km away and would not join me in my car.

Indeed, these were many such fond memories of Nguyen who I looked at as a friend as well as a very eminent colleague.

RIP
Ricky Metaxas