

## IN MEMORIAM



**Maurice Godet**  
1930-1993

It is with great sadness that I inform the readership of the *Journal of Tribology* of the untimely death of Professor Maurice Godet of the Institut National des Sciences Appliquées of Lyon, France. Professor Godet was one of the most distinguished and active leaders of the international tribology community, and had been Associate Editor of this journal from 1990 until the time of his death from cancer on October 9, 1993.

Maurice Godet was born in Geneva, Switzerland into an international family (his mother was British and his father French). After attending school in France, he came to the United States for his university education and received a Bachelors degree in Mechanical Engineering from New York University, and the degrees of Master and Doctor of Engineering from Yale University. After receiving his doctorate in 1957, he remained in the United States for four years to work as a Research Engineer for Shell Development Co.

In 1962 Professor Godet returned to France to establish, essentially single-handedly, the Laboratoire de Mécanique des Contacts at INSA in Lyon. Under his leadership that laboratory attained a position of preeminence in French tribology and became known throughout the world as one of the leading centers of tribology research and education. Many of the students educated under his supervision have themselves gone on to become leaders of the tribology research community, particularly in France. Based on his research, Professor Godet published over 200 technical papers on various aspects of tribology, with many of his papers having appeared in this journal. Of particular importance was his work on the following subjects: third-body effects in sliding wear, experimental studies of elastohydrodynamic lubrication, thermal effects in dry and lubricated sliding systems, and fretting wear. His contri-

butions to the science and technology of tribology were both broad in scope and significant in their influence on the work of other researchers and design engineers.

Throughout his career, Professor Godet demonstrated a remarkable international outlook and participated actively in technology transfer, particularly with engineers from industry. His desire to become involved with the international tribology community led him to present his work at numerous international tribology conferences, including the annual ASME/STLE Tribology Conference, and to encourage his students and colleagues to do the same. In 1974 he co-founded the renowned Leeds-Lyon Symposium series, an annual meeting that has become one of the world's major gatherings of tribologists. He served as gracious host of every other symposium in that series, including the twentieth meeting in September, 1993. Through his involvement in international meetings, he became as well known to the tribologists of other countries as he was in France.

Professor Godet was the recipient of many prestigious awards and honors, including the ASME Mayo D. Hersey Award (1992), the Tribology Gold Medal (1988), an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Leeds (1993), and a Laureate of the Wallenberg Foundation of Sweden (1987). He was Chevalier of the Ordre National du Mérite and an Officer of Palmes Académiques of France.

Professor Godet is survived by his beloved wife Jacqueline and his lovely daughters Sophie and Laure-Marine. His many personal and professional friends from throughout the world will miss him greatly.

**Francis E. Kennedy, Jr.**  
Technical Editor