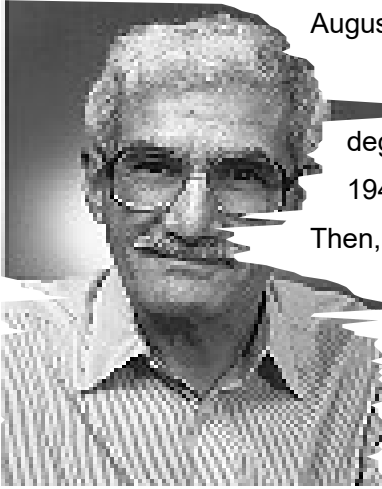


APOSTOLOPOULOS OR BETTER KNOWN AS THE AUTHOR OF CALCULUS THAT FORGED ENGINEERING IN COLOMBIA

APOSTOLOPOULOS O EL AUTOR DEL CÁLCULO QUE FORJÓ LA INGENIERÍA EN COLOMBIA

Better known by its abbreviated name: Apostol – an American of Greek descent- was born in Helper, Utah, on August 20, 1923. And died on May 8, 2016 in California.



He received his bachelor of science in chemical engineering in 1944; master's degree in mathematics in 1946, both from the University of Washington, Seattle. In 1948, he received his PhD in mathematics from the University of California, Berkeley. Then, spent a year each at Berkeley and MIT before joining Caltech in 1950 as an assistant professor; he was named associate professor in 1956, professor in 1962, and professor emeritus in 1992. He spent four months in Greece as a visiting professor of mathematics at the University of Patras in 1978; and he spent eight years as a member of an Electoral Committee selecting faculty for the University of Crete. In 2001, he was elected as a corresponding member of the Academy of

Athens.

Apostol was the author of several influential and universal textbooks in mathematical analysis and analytic number theory. For more than five decades, undergraduate introductory mathematics courses at Caltech have used Apostol's two-volume text, "*Calculus*," which is often referred to by Caltech students as "Tommy 1" and "Tommy 2." About this book Yu Takeuchy – Master of masters in Colombia - would said -around 1965- that: *it revolutionized the focus of teaching texts on mathematics as calculus book more oriented to engineering*; i.e. with the book have forged -for over 50 years- Colombian engineers.

Apostol also worked with a Caltech team that produced *The Mechanical Universe . . . and beyond*, a 52-episode video lecture series based on *The Mechanical Universe: Introduction to Heat and Mechanics* and *Beyond the Mechanical Universe: From Electricity to Modern Physics*, the introductory physics textbooks that Apostol coauthored. Later, was the creator, director, and producer of *Project MATHEMATICS!* -www.projectmathematics.com-, a series of award-winning computer animated videos that explore basic topics in high school mathematics such as the Pythagorean Theorem, scaling, sines and cosines, and the history of mathematics -the videotape about the Tunnel of Samos is wonderful-.

In 1983 published: *Mathematical Intelligencer*, where it proves the famous Basilea's problem:. Then, in 1996, remembering Euler, presented the paper "*What Is the Most Surprising Result in Mathematics?*": Answering: "*the prime number theorem*", base of new prove about Basilea's problem since the product: with p prime and taking .

In the XXI century he was awarded MMA's Lester R. Ford Award three times, given to recognize authors of articles of expository excellence. He additionally served as a visiting lecturer for the MMA and as a member of its Board of Governors. He was named as one of the inaugural class of Fellows of the American Mathematical Society in 2012.

But, perhaps, Apostolopoulos's best academic contribution was to show the community the best face of applied mathematics by providing, untraditional classroom, nine videographic scenarios that have been visited by no less

than 10 million people in the Web...his statement: democratization of the mathematical Knowledge at its maximum expression.

HAROLD VACCA GONZÁLEZ