



Tribute to Yu. A. Kuznetsov (1935–2016)



On 5 April 2016, aged 81, following a long and serious illness, Yuriy Aleksandrovich Kuznetsov, one of the eldest employees of “Almaz – Antey” Air and Space Defence Corporation, veteran of labour, Advisor to Director General of All-Russian Scientific and Research Institute of Radio Engineering (VNIIRT) for research and technical matters, member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of “Almaz – Antey” Air Defence Corporation, passed away.

Yu. A. Kuznetsov was born on 23 February 1935 in Tartoyak village, Kuraginskiy district, Krasnoyarsk region.

In 1958 he graduated from Tomsk Polytechnic Institute with honours, majoring in radio engineering.

Yu. A. Kuznetsov started his career in August 1958 as an engineer of Scientific and Research Institute of Measurement Instrumentation (NIIP) and worked his way up to the position of the General Designer of VNIIRT.

Starting in 1970, Yu. A. Kuznetsov held a number of management positions: Director – Research Advisor of NIIP, Deputy Director General of Siberian Komintern PO (Radiotelegraph Depot), Director General of Sapfir Research and Production Association (NPO “Sapfir”) in Novosibirsk. He was in charge of development of detection radar devices for the air defence forces (detection radar for the S-300PT and S-300PS surface-to-air systems) and air defence of the land forces (detection radio locator for the S-300V surface-to-air systems, Kupol detection and target designation radar for Buk surface-to-air system).

In 1970 Yu. A. Kuznetsov successfully presented his thesis and gained the Candidate of Science degree, in 1978 he received the Senior Researcher title, in 1992 – the Associate Professor title, in 1994 he was elected the Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Rocket and Artillery Sciences.

By Decree of the Central Committee of the Communist Party (TsK KPSS) of the USSR and the Council of Ministers of the USSR No. 298-72 dd. 10 March 1987, Yu. A. Kuznetsov was appointed to the position of the General Designer of VNIIRT and had been working in that capacity for more



than 20 years. Within these years, the Institute completed developments of Gamma-D, Kasta-2-1, Kasta-2-2, Gamma-S1 radars, Utro, Utro-3 radar simulators, Gazetchik radar protection devices, performed works on a single automated system for air defence radar field, submitted 1RS1-1 (for Pantsir-S1 regimental surface-to-air missile complex), Furke-2 (for the naval forces ships) radars for testing, a series of reasearch works were accomplished.

Being the author of many research works and inventions, Yu. A. Kuznetsov greatly contributed to creation of the research base of the institute, implementation of modern technologies and hardware components, automation of design and mathematical modelling, he was the Research Advisor for many research works.

Yu. A. Kuznetsov was awarded the Red Banner of Labour (1971, 1976) for his distinguished work. In 1977 he received the title of Honourable Radio Operator of the USSR. In 1980 Yu. A. Kuznetsov, being the Chief Designer, was awarded the Lenin Prize for development of 5N64 radar for S-300P anti-aircraft missile system.

When working in VNIIRT, Yu. A. Kuznetsov received the title of Honoured Designer of the Russian Federation (2000), was awarded the Order of Friendship (2007), and various medals.

To his last days, Yu. A. Kuznetsov continued his work in JSC “VNIIRT”, invaluabley contributing to development of radio engineering.

Yu. A. Kuznetsov’s distinctive features were high professionalism, as well as human decency, modesty, sympathy, attention to people, charm and kindness.

Everybody who knew Yuriy Aleksandrovich Kuznetsov, was connected to or worked with him will cherish his memory.