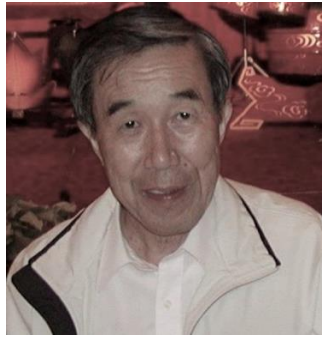


## Remembering Professor Takashi FUJITA (1935-2020)



Prof. Takashi Fujita (Photographed at GIS-IDEAS 2004)

Prof. Emeritus Takashi FUJITA of Osaka Institute of Technology and Founder of Japan-Vietnam Geoinformatics Consortium left for his heavenly abode on November 16, 2020 at the age of 85.

Prof. Takashi Fujita was born in Shimane Prefecture in April 1935. He graduated from the Division of Geoscience, Institute of Polytechnics, (currently Department of Geosciences, Faculty of Science) Osaka City University in 1958, and commenced his professional career at the Atomic Fuel Corporation (currently Japan Atomic Energy Agency). He later took up a faculty position at Osaka Institute of Technology in 1963. He received his Doctor of Science degree from Osaka City University in September 1971. He became full professor at Osaka Institute of Technology in 1975 and retired in March 2001. After retiring from Osaka Institute of Technology, he served as an advisor to the Kansai Geo-Environment Research Center and actively participated in academic societies and technical study groups and provided valuable inputs based on his rich experiences.

He initiated his research on landslide after joining Osaka Institute of Technology and carried out seminal works on geological features of landslides in Japan. He pioneered the integration of surface and subsurface data and formulated quantitative geomorphological methods to express landslide characteristics and elucidate the relationship between landslides and geology.

He served as chairman of the Japanese Geomorphological Union (1985-1986) and received a best paper award at The Japan Landslide Society Annual meeting in 1996. He was conferred the title of Honorary Member from the Geological Society

of Japan, the Japan Society of Engineering Geology, and the Japanese Geomorphological Union. He was awarded The Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon by the Japanese Government in 2014 for his achievements in education and research. He was a recipient of the JVGC (Japan-Vietnam Geoinformatics Consortium) award at the 2014 GIS-IDEAS International Conference for his outstanding contributions in promoting international research collaborations in Geoinformatics.

Prof. Fujita was instrumental in the founding of the JVGC in 2001. The activities of JVGC facilitated collaborations amongst Geoinformatics researchers and partitioners in Japan, Thailand, and Vietnam. He served as the Co-Chairperson of the GIS-IDEAS International Conference Series between 2002-2006. GIS-IDEAS provided a platform to nurture young researchers and students and foster capacity building and technology transfer related to Geoinformatics.

Prof. Fujita led an active life until the late stage of his life and enjoyed travelling to domestic destinations. He was undergoing medical care at home since late 2019 and seemed to be recuperating his health. He breathed his last surrounded by his loved ones who bid farewell to his departed soul at a private family funeral.

In his demise, the geoscientific community has lost a leading figure in landslide research and one of the early pioneers in geoinformatics. We offer our deepest gratitude and prayers for his departed soul.

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