

Joe was one of my best mathematical friends. I admired his enthusiastic style of writing and learned a lot from him for presenting my own publications.

In spite of the 'iron curtain', we jointly participated at meetings in Kent and Leipzig. The Polish-East German Seminars on Banach Space Theory (organized by Olek Pełczyński and myself) should be mentioned, as well.

When Joe visited Jena, I was told that he ordered his beers by saying: "*Bitte, ein anderes Bier*", which in German not means 'another' but 'a different'. So, after several steps, the waiter told him 'now I served you all kinds of beer we have'.

We met for the last time at a conference in Tartu (Estonia) in 2013. Back to Kent, Joe sent me a mail in which he wrote:

*'I once again enjoyed our (limited) time together. It may well be the last we see of each other; math meetings take on a melancholic flavor as the years pass'.*

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