

Charles Mangold (2.02.1933–18.08.2014)

Raymond ENAY

Charles Mangold, Charlie to his friends, left us on August 18th, 2014 after a fight of several months against illness. He was 81 years old and his funeral (cremation) took place on August 22th.

Charles Mangold started and finished his academic career at the University Claude-Bernard-Lyon 1 where he was successively Assistant, “Maître-Assistant” and Professor. In the meantime he spent five years at Oran University (Algeria) and ten years at Nancy 1 University where he was appointed Professor for the first time in 1981.

Charles Mangold made his first steps in geology with a study of the Middle Jurassic of the Isle of Crémieu, followed by his French doctor’s degree on the Bathonian and Callovian of the southern Jura Range. Quickly he was considered as a national and international authority concerning the Bathonian and Callovian stratigraphy and palaeontology of ammonites, especially the perisphinctids. That specialization was combined with a wide knowledge of ammonites as a whole and the Jurassic System.

He was Secretary of the French Jurassic Group and of the International Subcommission on the Jurassic. Among his published papers, as a single author or with co-authors, are mentioned here those of national or international importance. For instance the Facies Maps of the Jurassic of France and the Geological Synthesis of the S.E. France Basin, the Stratigraphy of the Jurassic of Saudi Arabia and many contributions to the Palaeobiogeography of ammonites. He took also a prominent part in the study and the choice of the boundary stratotype (GSSP = Global Stratotype Section and Point) of the Bathonian Stage in S.E. France.

Besides academic activities Charles Mangold contributed extensively to the mapping for the regular geological map of France at a 1/50000 scale and to applied geology in the Southern French Jura (Highway Lyon-Geneva, LEP project for the CERN (European Nuclear Research Center).

After he retired he was regularly working at the university (where we shared the same work-room) and he was currently finishing the second part (tullitids) of a monograph (with M.D. Arnaud Martin) on the Bathonian Ammonite faunas of Mâconnais.

Of Charlie we preserve the memory of a man enjoying good living, with plain-speaking, who enjoyed field work and was fond of good food.

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Photo of Charles Mangold leaning on a fossil tree from the Fossil Forest (Purbeck), taken during the French Jurassic Group field trip in Dorset (1990)