

RICHARD WIEGANDT SEPTUAGENARIAN

E. Tamás Schmidt

Richard Wiegandt has played a leading role in the development of ring theory and radical theory for nearly forty years, contributing much to the present-day vitality of these fields. He also has many important results in other fields: categories, semigroups, near-rings, automata theory, topology, combinatorics. He is a leading researcher of radical theory, one of the most fruitful in this theory.

Richard Wiegandt was born in September, 1932, in Budapest, Hungary. Richard is married since 1957 and has two sons. He started his research as a student of Professor L. Redei in Szeged. After graduating from Szeged, he worked as a high school teacher in the remote town Orosháza.

In 1961 he started his Ph.D. studies at the L. Eötvös University in Budapest under the supervision of L. Fuchs and he got the Ph.D. in 1967. In 1975, he was awarded the degree, Doctor of Sciences for his achievements in the ring theory.

Since 1964, he has worked at the Rényi Mathematical Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, promoted in 1970 and 1978. He also thought at the L. Eötvös University, Budapest, and the Technical University of Budapest.

He has written more than 140 papers, more than 40 with co-authors from all around the world. Richard spent time at universities in Australia, Austria, Canada, Egypt, Germany, Pakistan, Poland, South Africa, Taiwan and USA. Richard was invited speaker at many conferences. He is a dedicated teacher and has many excellent students.

In the middle of the fifties - when Richard started his career - two mathematicians, Kurosh and Amitsur, independently elaborated a general radical theory. Some ten years later Divinsky published his famous book on radicals. About that time, Richard's interest turned to radical theory. Developing the theory of radicals and searching for applications in other areas, mainly in ring theory, Wiegandt published many deep results. Mainly through him and his collaborators, radical theory became a great and deep theory.

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