WGN

53:3 june 2025



In memoriam: Daniel Očenáš Revised predictions for 2025 Draconids and Leonids Event-based camera for meteors Uniqueness of the Geminids International Meteor Conference 2024 contributions

In memoriam: Daniel Očenáš 1949 – 2025

Peter Zimnikoval¹

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Daniel Očenáš was born in the small village of Špania Dolina near Banská Bystrica, Slovakia. He studied at Teacher's College in Banská Bystrica (1968–1972). Later, he attended Comenius University in Bratislava where he studied physics and astronomy (1976–1980). He graduated from this with the title "Rerum Naturalium Doctor".

His working life included spells as a teacher. In 1975, he started working at Observatory Banská Bystrica. In 1990, he became a director of this institution.

Daniel was a founder member of the IMO (1989). He was main organiser of three Meteor conferences in Slovakia — Smolenice (1992), Stará Lesná (1998) and Šachtička (2008). In the 1990s, he was appointed as a member of Professional-Amateur working group at IAU Commission 22.

His first meteor observation was carried out at the age of 14. Meteor astronomy became the main interest of his professional life. Daniel was a famous populariser of science, especially of astronomy. He gave hundreds of lectures and ran public observing sessions around Slovakia.

We honor his memory.

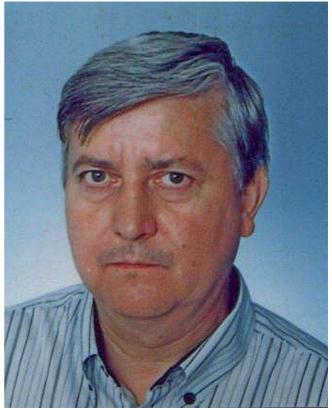


Figure 1 – Daniel Očenáš (May 29, 1949 – June 12, 2025).

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