

Obituary : Yvon Quéinnec

We learn with great sadness the death of Yvon Quéinnec, on the eve of his 85th birthday.

Born in Brittany and after a secondary course in Brest, Yvon studied in Toulouse, and specialized in ethnology, hoping to contribute to the prevention of damage made to cultures. Following the 1968 movement, he committed to the creation of training programmes in work physiology and decided to train in ergonomics, at CNAM (with professors Wisner and Laville) and EPHE (with professor Leplat).

From 1976, Yvon reoriented his research towards human work, and mobilized his skills in ethnology to analyze shiftwork in continuous processes. Night work and alternating teams will become his main research topics. In 1985, he published with Catherine Teiger and Gilbert de Terssac *Repères pour Négocier le travail posté* (Guidelines to negotiate shiftwork) published by Octarès Publishing, which became a reference in the field.

His commitment to ergonomics, especially as the president of SELF from 1989 to 1991, extended beyond the French or French-speaking borders. From 1985 to 1989, he was a scientific adviser of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions. In 1990-1991, he was president of the Scientific Council of the Triennial Congress of the International Ergonomics Association (IEA) organized in Paris. He worked actively as a representative of SELF to the definition of the criteria of the European ergonomist title in 1991. He was an IEA fellow.

Appointed full professor in ergonomics in 1988, he participated in 1994 in the creation of the Labor and Cognition Laboratory, a mixed research unit of the CNRS in Toulouse, of which he was the head until 1998. From 1992, he coheaded the national ergonomics research Masters Degree, a research training course which has been followed by the majority of current researchers in ergonomics.

His commitment was also as a citizen, through his various mandates as a municipal councillor of his municipality in Auzielle from 2001 to 2020.

A warm and tolerant man leaves us. We will keep in mind his qualities as a pedagogue, rigorous and benevolent towards his students, his smile, his openness as a demanding researcher, his sense of ethics, his commitment to the health of workers, often in interaction with union organizations.

SELF presents their sincere condolences to his wife Nicole and his children Isabelle and Philippe.