

THE GREAT ARGENTINE PROBLEMIST JORGE KAPROS HAS LEFT US

Today (August 27, 2023) we received in this newsroom the sad news of the death of **Jorge Marcelo Kapros**, after a short and painful illness that he had suffered with remarkable stoicism; the tragic event occurred in a hospital in Moreno, Province of Buenos Aires, in the early hours of today.

Undoubtedly all chess players and, fundamentally, those of us who are fans and masters in the art of composition are mourning the irreparable loss of this great artist in the complex art of chess problem solving.

Jorge Kapros was born in Buenos Aires on November 6, 1955 and his residence was located in the town of El Palomar, in the Province of Buenos Aires. His profession had been that of a telephone employee, then state company ENTel, he was currently retired. He had held the title of International Master for Composition from the Fédération Internationale des Échecs (FIDE) since 2008 and had a score that was close to the title of Grand Master.

This notable Argentine problem solver had about 1,600 problems to his credit, more than half of them were solo, but with another great composer, the Argentine IM for chess composition **Jorge Lois**, he made together about 800 help problems, also He did some work together with the swedish maestro **Christer Jonsson** and the german **Rolf Wiehagen**, among others. Although his specialty was the composition of help mates (Helpmates). Likewise, Kapros composed direct dunks –in fact, his beginnings, in 1972, were composing dunks in two moves–, he also made faeries and even several interesting Studies.

Due to his natural humility, it is difficult for us to know exactly the large number of distinctions that Kapros had achieved throughout his career as a composer, since he did not keep track of them; but from very reliable sources we can say that he had managed to obtain more than 100 first prizes, half of them jointly with Jorge Lois and more than 500 different distinctions, close to half also composed with Lois.

Since 1973 he was a member of the **Peña del Mate de Ayuda** in the Argentine Chess Club.

The works of Kapros, undoubtedly the greatest composer of problem in all of Latin America and one of the most important in the world, have been published in countless specialized magazines in our country, in Europe, in the famous FIDE Album; and even in the publication of the person who writes this, **Finales... y Temas**, which in its 27 years of existence has published, in various issues, most of them; such can be seen on various Web Pages.

We say goodbye to a sensitive friend and better human being whom we will remember forever, as his legacy will remain in the beautiful watermarks of his works with which he knew how to surprise and please us, making us see the wonder of chess, even beyond the competition itself.

José A. Copié

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