



In memory of,

Professor Ernest Hinton

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The Computational Mechanics community lost one of its prominent researchers with the recent death of Prof. *Ernest Hinton*.

Ernest Hinton received his B.Sc., M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in Civil Engineering from the University college of Swansea, and then became a lecturer in the Structures Division of the Civil Engineering Department.

He published about 250 journal and conference papers. His first published paper in 1968, co-authored with the late Professor Bruce Irons, was the beginning of a brilliant career in Swansea with the International Institute for Numerical Methods in Engineering headed by Professor O.C. Zienkiewicz to push forward the frontiers of the development and application of the Finite Element Method.

He published his first book, *Finite Element Programming*, in 1977 with his colleague, Professor D.R.J. Owen; the start of a joint team work continued until his death. Together, they have published over 8 textbooks, edited 17 international conference texts, and were the chief editors of the *International Journal for "Engineering Computations"* in collaboration with Prof. K.J. Bathe. The book, *"Finite Elements in Plasticity"*, published in 1980, has been a masterpiece in Computational Mechanics and advanced the state of the art well into the nonlinear domain. The book is still the best and most referred text for nonlinear finite element analysis.

Hinton pioneered a number of techniques for developing new element technologies for plates and shells in various applications from composites to reinforced concrete and rock mechanics problems. His recent interests were oriented to the Structural Shape/Size/Topology Optimization including Genetic Algorithm, Sensitivity Analysis and Adaptivity. He was the ADOPT group leader; developing a general purpose structural optimization software.

Ernest Hinton's intuition and passion for research inspired all those who worked with him. He had over forty PhD students, many of whom are now professors at top universities around the world; including Iran.

Being under treatment for over the past 7 years, he died of cancer in Swansea a month before the turn of century.