

Preface

Dear Friends!

On the cover of this issue there is a "special issue". What is its difference from the usual numbers issued earlier? The fact is that with this number, we wanted to pay tribute to the memory of our friend and colleague Igor Ushakov. It is he who owes his origin and existence to the Gnedenko Forum and our journal, it is with his name that all our initiatives of the last 11 years are connected. We decided to post three articles by Igor, printed in our magazine in different years. They very clearly demonstrate its versatility.

The first article is a philosophical reflection on the ways of developing the theory of reliability and its recent "golden age". These arguments are all the more valuable because their author is one of those who stood at the roots of what is now called the theory of reliability.

The second article is an example of the scientific work of Igor Ushakov, in which he discusses the interesting practical application of generating functions.

The third is his recollections about the teacher - about Boris Vladimirovich Gnedenko, with whom he was associated by kind friendship.

I have no hesitation to see Igor as my teacher, through him I learned a lot in life and in science. And so, without hesitation, I can say that it was true for me and all understand each. It has been almost a year since he passed away, and this year has been very difficult. It does not take the loneliness, not enough of our letters and conversations. They stayed site Gnedenko, stayed the electronic journal, which I hope I will be able to save. Were his books.

And stayed my debt to him: I promised help Igor to make him personal website. Now this site will be a memorial - the site of human memory, memory of scientist and friend.

Alexander Bochkov