

Istvan Dioszegi (1954-2018)

It is with deep sorrow that we inform you that Istvan Dioszegi passed away on the 29th of September, 2018 following a long and difficult, yet dignified battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife Edit and his sons Balint and Marton.

Istvan Dioszegi was born on April 15, 1954 in Budapest, Hungary. His father, Istvan, is a renowned historian, while his mother, Maria, worked as a librarian.

He spent his youth in Hungary. From an early age, he was intrigued by mathematics, physics and chemistry. He went to one of the best high schools in the country, to a class specialized in mathematics and physics. He earned a Master's degree in physics in 1977 at the Eötvös Loránd University, followed by a PhD at the same place in 1985. He worked in the Institute of Isotopes of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest as an experimental nuclear physicist. He worked at the Nuclear Structure Laboratory at Stony Brook University from 1989 until 2002. He joined Brookhaven Lab's Environmental Sciences Department in 2002, and moved to the Nonproliferation & National Security Department in 2005. He has authored and co-authored more than 60 scholarly articles published in refereed journals.

His interest in music also began at a young age. He learned to play the piano during his elementary and high school years. During his college years, his admiration of Baroque music led him to earn a qualification in organ music. He enjoyed traditional folk music and dancing as well. Together with his brother Laszlo, he recorded old folk songs and dances in Transylvania, which are now preserved in the Music Archives of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. In the United States, he served as the organist and music director of St James Episcopal Church in St James from 2001 to 2016. In 2017, he followed Fr. Michael Bartolomeo to Trinity Episcopal Church in Northport. He last played at a wedding on August 3rd, 2018. He learned the harpsicord, and gave several concerts at the Staller Center at Stony Brook University, as part of a chamber ensemble.

He loved travelling around the world, hiking, skiing and kayaking, and conveyed this love to his sons. He was a devoted father to his sons, Balint and Marton, and beloved husband to Edit for 37 years.