Obituary

Emma E. van Nieuwkoop (1933–2022)

Emma van Nieuwkoop (for friends Emmy) passed away at her home in Oegstgeest on 12 January 2022 at the age of 88. Emma's role in the IAWA cannot be overestimated. It started in 1977 when the IAWA Office had moved from Syracuse, NY, USA to Leiden, and the IAWA Bulletin had to be produced in-house in the Rijksherbarium, the new hosting institution. Emma, a secretary of the Flora Maelesiana Foundation and assistant of its General Editor Professor C.G.G.J. van Steenis, accepted the challenge and developed text and lay-out editing into a fine art in the 43 years she produced firstly the IAWA Bulletin, then its new series, and from 1991 onwards the renamed IAWA Journal — mostly in her spare time in evenings and weekends. In the process, she mastered the quickly evolving techniques from composer typing with text stored on magnetic cards to sophisticated computer software layout packages such as InDesign. In 2019, her last year as desk editor she produced the Jubilee Volume 40 of 882 pages, including three beautifully executed special issues on Wood Formation, Fossil Wood and Cell Wall Ultrastructure.

For many years Emmy also served as financial administrator and membership secretary of our Association, as the successor to Doortje Oosterwijk. In that role, she was enormously helpful to many members, especially those who experienced problems with international money transfers or were simply temporarily out of cash. She made many long-distance friends in our IAWA family. Her great services to the IAWA were recognised in 2005 when the IAWA Council elected her an Honorary Member. A well-deserved honour that was awarded during the memorable IAWA Social Hour at the XVII International Botanical Congress in Vienna.

All Emmy’s work for IAWA and its members was truly a labour of love. We will miss her very much.

Pieter Baas

Fig. 1. Emmy van Nieuwkoop at the IAWA Dinner in her honour in 2019.