

was his chicken-coated-with-parsley dish. Whatever he did, he did with gusto.

Marko fought his illness with the intensity he brought to physics and to life, and he kept active as long as he could, delivering lectures on biophysics until shortly before his death.

Marko's friends and colleagues will remember his exceptional energy, his laugh, his clarity of thought. His departure at the height of his intellectual powers, and just when he was reentering the field of biophysics, deprives the world of an energetic and imaginative talent who had given much and had much more to give. He will be deeply missed.

GLENN AGNOLET
WAYNE SASLOW

*Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas*

MILIVOJ BELIC

*Belgrade University
Belgrade, Yugoslavia*

JOSEPH BIRMAN

*City University
New York, New York*

SIMON MOSS

*University of Houston
Houston, Texas*



ANDREW G. MICHALITSIANOS

transformed himself from solar theorist to solar observer and experimenter and delighted in taking visiting colleagues for thrilling motorboat rides on Big Bear Lake. On one such occasion, he was issued a speeding ticket by the operator of an even faster police boat.

In 1976, Andy moved to Greenbelt, Maryland, as a National Research Council fellow at LASP. At Goddard, broadening his interests to include stellar physics, he interpreted infrared photometry of long-period variable stars.

By 1977, in the midst of a research associateship at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, Andy was recalled to LASP to join the permanent staff and take a significant role in calibrating the Ultraviolet Spectrometer and Polarimeter (UVSP) for the Solar Maximum Mission (SMM). In recognition of his contributions, he was appointed a coinvestigator on the UVSP team.

However, after the 1978 launch of the International Ultraviolet Explorer spacecraft (IUE), whose US scientific operations were headquartered at LASP, Andy became intrigued by the IUE mission and began an almost 20-year career in ultraviolet astronomy. By the time SMM was launched in 1980, his interests had shifted to the IUE program, and although Andy participated in a few of the early UVSP publications, he relinquished his observing rights with SMM to concentrate on spectroscopy with IUE.

In his early IUE work, Andy investigated symbiotic stars and related objects, often working with theorist Menas Kafatos and radio astronomer Jan Hollis. In particular, he wrote many papers on the nature of the symbiotic star R Aquarii and its jet.

Andy's growing involvement with ultraviolet stellar astronomy led to his

participation in the science team of the Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (UIT) for the Astro-1 Space Shuttle mission. It was also responsible for his becoming a coinvestigator of the yet-to-be launched Far Ultraviolet Spectroscopic Explorer.

During the 1980s, Andy became the IUE deputy project scientist and played a key role in keeping the aging spacecraft working to its full potential. He also advocated to NASA headquarters and external reviewers the need to continue long-term operations of the spacecraft. To prove his point, he offered a number of papers on the spectra of gravitationally lensed quasars obtained with IUE. He later expanded this line of research through the use of the Hubble Space Telescope.

In March 1997, following his brain cancer diagnosis and ensuing surgery (which kept him out of the office for only a week), Andy worked intensively with external and NASA scientists, notably Bradley Peterson, on the concept for an Earth-orbiting satellite to monitor time-variable ultraviolet and x-ray spectra in extended campaigns, which are rarely accommodated in the schedules of existing space observatories.

Andy's trademark was his dry, to-the-point humor, with which he approached most problems in life, scientific or otherwise. That made him extremely popular with his colleagues and friends. We are all grieving his early loss.

DEMOSTHENES KAZANAS
STEVEN MARAN

*Goddard Space Flight Center
Greenbelt, Maryland*

Andrew Gerasimos Michalitsianos

Andrew Gerasimos Michalitsianos, chief of the Laboratory for Astronomy and Solar Physics (LASP) at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, died of brain cancer on 29 October 1997 at Johns Hopkins University Hospital in Baltimore. He was 50 years old.

Born in Alexandria, Egypt, Andy was taken in 1951 to New York City, where he showed early promise in science as the president of the city's Junior Astronomy Club.

For his undergraduate studies, Andy went to the University of Arizona in Tucson, where he also worked as a student employee in the space division of Kitt Peak National Observatory. His Kitt Peak duties included initial tests of the 50-inch Remotely Controlled Telescope. Graduating in 1969 with a BS in physics, he moved to the University of Cambridge, where, in 1973, he earned a PhD in astrophysics with a thesis on theoretical solar physics. While in the UK, he met an English nursing student, Kathryn Alabaster, whom he later married after—it was said—her father, a Scotland Yard inspector, had subjected him to a thorough background check.

After leaving Cambridge, Andy held a postdoctoral fellowship in the years 1973–75 with Harold Zirin at Caltech's Big Bear Solar Observatory. There, he

Mary Clare Milward O'Brien

Mary Clare Milward O'Brien, an expert on the Jahn–Teller effect, died on 28 August 1997 in Oxford, England, after a long struggle with cancer. She was a member of the University of Oxford's theoretical physics group for a record 41 years.

Born on 6 June 1931 in Birmingham, England, Mary earned a BA in mathematics and physics at Oxford. She took her DPhil in 1955—again at Oxford, where she worked with Maurice Pryce and Brebis Bleaney on explaining the properties of magnetic ions in crystals as revealed by the new technique of magnetic resonance. That success led to a Henry fellowship, which she held in 1955–56 at Harvard University. There, she worked with John Van Vleck on antiferromagnetism in chromium alums and on the mag-