

Arie Ron (1928 – 2021) – Protozoologist with passion

Arie Ron was born on 16.6.1928 in Fechenbach, Bavaria, Germany and left us forever on 9.11.2021. His biography was strongly influenced by the horrors of the last century. His name as a child was Franz Leopold Lustig. His father served in the German army during the first world war in the same regiment as Adolf Hitler. When Hitler was elected chancellor, Arie's father and family emigrated to Haifa and later moved to Jerusalem. There all of them took Hebrew names and started a new life. As a young man – now Arie Ron – he worked in a kibbutz in agriculture. In the war of independence of Israel his lung was severely damaged (1948) from a grenade and he had health problems for years. Therefore, he changed his plan to work in agriculture and instead studied biology and medicine. After obtaining his Ph.D. he worked for two years (1967 – 69) in the lab of Prof. Dr. David Prescott in Boulder, Colorado, USA. Prescott was a leading protozoologist during that time, and it was there that I met Arie. It was the beginning of a lifelong friendship.

After this post-doc time Arie returned to Israel and worked in the Department of Anatomy and Embryology at the famous Hadassah Medical School, Hebrew University, Jerusalem. His topic as a lecturer was the anatomy of the human head. But in research he continued his investigations of the life cycle and the biosynthesis of cellular substances in the ciliate *Tetrahymena*.

Privately Arie had a strong interest in music of all periods, and his collection of records and CDs was impressive.

Arie leaves behind a daughter, a son and three grandchildren. He enjoyed seeing the youngest generation developing their music abilities and winning prizes within Israel and in other countries.

Arie will be remembered as a warmhearted, wise man with always a humorous comment on his lips.

*(I appreciate very much the support of Jonathan Ron.)*

Dieter Ammermann, University of Tuebingen, Germany.