

Tribute to
the Late **Professor Dr. Franz KAPPEL**
from good friends of him

Our Personal Interaction with Family KAPPEL

❖ Prof. Dr. Marjono, MPhil

- Ph.D. Karl-Franzens University of Graz (Mathematics Programme, under supervision of Prof. Dr. Reich)
- Director of postgraduate Program, Brawijaya University, Malang, Indonesia

- ✚ Because of him, of his behavior I became more confident to lead groups, as it was the situation when I was the Head of Department of Mathematics, Brawijaya University (2002-2006), then as Dean at the Faculty of Science for two periods (2008-2012 and 2012-2016), then as coordinator for collaborations between UB and Australia in 2017 at the International Office (IO) of UB, and continued by the position of secretary for IO UB in 2018. Finally, I am a director of postgraduate Program in 2019 till now.
- ✚ I introduced Zainal Abidin to him, then Zainal become researcher at University of Texas at San Antonio, as Principal Engineer.
- ✚ I tried my best to share my experiences with him to our students and colleagues here in Brawijaya University at Malang.
- ✚ Last but not least his family always gave the best things to us for example:



Family
Kappel and
Family
Marjono
visiting
Graz.

© Prof. Dr. Marjono, MPhil

❖ Zainal Abidin, Ph.D.

- Ph.D. Graz University of Technology, Austria
- Adjunct Professor and Principal Engineer, University of Texas at San Antonio

✚ I am lucky to have a personal interaction with Prof. Kappel. Although he was not my academic advisor nor had he similar scientific background, I learnt a lot especially on thinking comprehensively about a topic of interest. Once at a dinner party in his house, we talked about a spoon. As usual, he was very enthusiastic to talk about it. He went to his library and took a book about the spoon. He told everybody about the history of the spoon and so on. Then the discussion on everything about the spoon continued and this could last for hours.

✚ Prof Kappel and Mrs. Kappel are helpful, empathize with people and love anything related to Indonesia. Although I am Indonesian, they might know more about Indonesia than I do. Anytime we were invited to their dinner party (which was almost every other week), there was always Indonesian food. This was a sweet memory for me and my family who were far from Indonesia. They have a special joke about me, saying that I am drinking “gula with coffee” not “coffee with sugar”.

✚ We were deeply shocked to hear of Prof. Kappel’s sudden death. Prof. Kappel, you are a very nice person. We pray and we believe that you will be happy to meet God.

❖ Dr.techn.Ir. Arief Hariyanto

- Ph.D. Graz University of Technology, Austria
- Director of Directorate of Education, ITB, Bandung

Franz and Grit Kappel, unconditional friendship, caring and loving family

Very shocked and lost moment when received the news.

I was so grateful to have a good friend and a tutor like Prof Franz Kappel. I was not a student at Uni Graz but my journey led me to meet Kappel family. They are such a wonderful family and give unconditional friendship and care to my family.

I remember that from my second week after my arrival in Graz, Franz and Grit Kappel have taken care of my daily needs including handling my laundry. I met Kappel after having been introduced by Endah Ebner, my first friend in Austria who helped me a lot, and since the first meeting, we were just like *clicked* to each other.

During my three years of study at TU Graz, every weekend Grit served all Indonesian students in Graz with the best meals ever. I was always her taste tester for her cooking, she asked me about my opinion about the spices she used and treated me like a good cook.

When I got married to my loving wife Uci, Franz and Grit Kappel took an opportunity to attend the ceremony during their vacation in Indonesia. It was a very honorable moment for my family.

In 1998, my wife Uci visited Graz for three months, and during her whole stay, everyday Grit picked her up to visit some places and to have a great time. Every weekend Franz and Grit drove us to visit the best places in Austria. I remembered we were driving to the mountain in order to let Uci see and touch snow for the first time in her life. It was a very memorable moment.

Franz was also my tutor, because helped me a lot as an editor for the dissertation which was written in English. Franz was an excellent English tutor since he has spent years as a lecturer in the US.

In my knowledge, I was the first graduate from Austria who became a lecturer of Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB). Franz was very supportive to ITB to become member of ASEA-UNINET. Franz mentioned a lot about Dr. Kusmayanto Kadiman, when ITB was introduced for the first time and applied to become a member of ASEA-UNINET. Dr. Kadiman was vice rector of ITB, later rector of ITB and minister of Research and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia. Franz Kappel was a very strong supporter for ITB in cooperation with Austrian Universities, including Technical University of Graz, the university I got my degree from.

Franz Kappel, we are very proud of you, you will be always special for me, my family and also for ITB. We had the best moments ever. Grit, you and your family are always in my heart and mind. Our condolences on the passing of Franz.

Family
KAPPEL
visits the
baby born of
Arief's
Family
(in Bandung)



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