

SERGEY EVGENYEVICH SUKHODOLSKY
(18.01.1925–29.06.2020)



On June 29, 2020, at the age of 95, an outstanding researcher and surveyor in the field of hydrogeology, geocryology, and engineering geology Sergey Evgenyevich Sukhodolsky passed away. He devoted more than 60 years to geological studies in different regions of Russia and abroad, to development of the methods of engineering and geocryological field investigations, and to preparing regulatory documents on conducting engineering survey for construction in the area of permafrost.

Sergey Evgenyevich Sukhodolsky was born on January 18, 1925. His father, Evgeny Ivanovich Sukhodolsky (1895–1945), was one of the leading researchers of the Permafrost Research Committee of the Academy of Sciences of USSR, later transformed into Obruchev Permafrost Institute (INMERO). That fact in many ways predetermined the choice of the profession by Sergey Sukhodolsky.

In 1950, Sergey Sukhodolsky graduated from the Moscow Ordzhonikidze Geological Survey Institute (MGRI) with a degree in mining engineering and geology. Back before graduation in 1948, Sergey Sukhodolsky had accumulated huge expedition experience, participating in complex studies of permafrost deposits of the Poluy River basin, which were conducted by INMERO and guided by Aleksander Iosifovich Popov.

After graduation from MGRI, Sergey Sukhodolsky was assigned to work in the German Democratic Republic to conduct hydrogeological survey works. After their completion, he was offered the position of the head of a geological survey team leader in the R&D of MGRI to investigate the hydrogeocryologi-

cal conditions of developing phlogopite deposits of southern Yakutia. In April 1953, Sergey Sukhodolsky started to work in Obruchev Permafrost Institute (INMERO) in the position of a junior researcher. Over the subsequent years, Sergey Sukhodolsky carried out survey in the north of the Siberian Platform and in southern Yakutia. He was immediately invited to work in the expedition to the Igarka permafrost station of the Institute. The task set for the expedition workers (L.S. Khomichevskaya, K.A. Kondratyeva, Z.M. Kanevsky) consisted in obtaining information about the specific characteristics of the geocryological conditions of the vast basin of Essey Lake on the Middle Siberian Highland.

In 1954, the Aldan permafrost station of the Permafrost Institute started to function. Its establishment was caused by the beginning of industrial development of the coal and iron ore deposits of southern Yakutia, located in the area of sporadic permafrost. From the time of the station's establishment, Sergey Sukhodolsky worked for three years as the head of the hydrogeological unit. At the time of the team's winter traverses, the team discovered a series of sub-aquatic outbreaks of ground waters with the yield from dozens to the first thousands liters per second, with a catalogue of springs made. The surveys confirmed and specified the idea of the favorable conditions of accumulation of large reserves of ground water in the basin's interior, which could serve as sources of water supply for large industrial enterprises.

In that period, Sergey Sukhodolsky investigated the hydrogeological conditions of seasonal frozen soils and permafrost soils, cryogenic processes and