

Honoring the legacy of Roger Eggleston

It is with heavy hearts that we bid farewell to Roger Eggleston, President Emeritus of AHRMIO, who passed away in the UK on March 22, 2024. Roger was a shining light, known for his unwavering dedication to both humanity and the human resources profession.

In the world of international service, there are individuals whose contributions leave an enduring mark on the world. Roger Eggleston is one of those remarkable souls. His distinguished career spanning decades has left an enduring legacy of dedication, innovation, and tireless advocacy for global cooperation. From his humble beginnings as a technical officer to his influential roles within the United Nations Common System, Roger's journey is a testament to his commitment and passion for making the world a better place.

Reflecting on the history of AHRMIO, Roger's visionary leadership stands out prominently as he is honored as the founding father of the association. In late 1990s, alongside the late Mary Jane Peters, Roger envisioned a space where HR specialists from international not-for-profit organizations could convene and learn from one another. Recognizing the unique challenges faced by HR professionals in this arena, they laid the groundwork for what would become AHRMIO. By the year 2000, their vision became a reality, and AHRMIO community flourished with over 50 member organizations and over 200 individual members.

Roger's time with AHRMIO was marked by a steadfast commitment to promoting best practices in HR management within international organizations. He championed initiatives aimed at fostering professional development, knowledge sharing, and collaboration among HR practitioners worldwide. Through conferences, workshops, and networking events organized under his guidance, AHRMIO became a vital hub for exchanging ideas and insights, enriching the professional lives of its members.

Roger's remarkable attributes extended far beyond his professional achievements. He was a kind soul, a true gentleman, renaissance man, and opera lover. Roger's love for life was felt in everything he did. Whether he was belting out opera tunes in the corridors or donning his trademark colorful ties and improbable socks to celebrate holidays, he brought joy to those around him.

Roger was more than a colleague. He was a mentor who uplifted and guided countless individuals, instilling in them the confidence to grow in their careers and to embody the principles of kindness and integrity.

As we prepare for AHRMIO's upcoming 25th-anniversary conference this fall, Roger's absence will be deeply felt. But his legacy will live on as we gather to celebrate the milestones of our association, reflecting on his invaluable contributions to its founding and growth.

In honoring Roger Eggleston's contributions as President Emeritus of AHRMIO, we remember not only his remarkable achievements but also the enduring impact of his leadership on the field of international HR management. His early recognition of the importance of associations like AHRMIO speaks volumes about his visionary spirit. Roger understood the need for a supportive community, and he transformed AHRMIO into a welcoming haven for HR professionals in international organizations. His legacy serves as an inspiration to us all and reminds us of the profound difference that dedicated individuals can make in shaping the world of work for the better.

Roger's spirit will forever echo in the halls and hearts of AHRMIO, inspiring us to embrace life's vibrancy and strive for excellence in all that we do. Like the poignant farewell from Puccini's 'Madame Butterfly,' Roger's impact will resonate for generations to come, reminding us that even in parting, the meaning of life resonates eternally.

Thank you, President. Rest in peace. Your legacy will forever inspire us to strive for a better world.

Forever in our hearts,

AHRMIO