In Memoriam of

Jan van de Geijn:

A session on Knowledge-Based Planning

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Jan van de Geijn, phys drs

3-D Planning Before You Were Born

J van de Geijn, BJR 38: 369-377, 1965: Computation of Two + Three Dimensional Dose Distributions in 60 Cobalt Teletherapy

Vark, the Netherlands

Jan, born 1930, with Agatha
The extended van de Geijn family, in 1945.

Jan, his parents, and his 11 siblings, 1950.
He left the farm to study physics at the Rijksuniversiteit Utrecht.

Jan and soon-to-be-wife Sophia (one of the first Dutch doctors to specialize in nuclear medicine) in 1954.
Jan got his PhD in Experimental Physics and Astronomy at the University of Utrecht in 1957.
Jan worked at Westeinde Hospital in the Hague until 1974. Working very independently, Jan pioneered the use of computers in radiation therapy treatment planning at the hospital along with his mentor and colleague Dr. Geert Kok, radiation oncologist.

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As geiger counters and second papers have been published on the application of modern computers in radiation planning, an IBM 1620 was installed in the central computer laboratory. This machine, purchased in 1969, is capable of 200 multiplications per second. It is capable of handling all of the computations for the problem of planning cobalt 60 teletherapy treatment plans.

IBM 1620: 100 multiplications/sec. 10² slower than now.
Memory: ~ 20K (decimal digits)

Drs. Kok and van de Geijn, showing 3-D treatment planning at the 2nd AER Congress in Amsterdam, 1971.
Philips Treatment Planning System, 1974

Jan and Jack Cunningham, Japan 1981, discussing beam models yet again
Jan van de Geijn was one of the pioneers of computerized treatment planning, and worked to improve it for more than 35 years. He would definitely want us to get on with the talks so we can learn something new about treatment planning!