

Dan Urman

1945-2004

Professor Dan Urman, who died shortly before this issue of *Scripta Classica Israelica* went to press, instructed that on his tombstone should be written 'he loved his country and his students'. His life was devoted to both. Already as a child he fell in love with the archaeology of his country and spent his army service working as a guide. Later he was engaged on an archaeological survey of Arab villages in Israel (including, after 1967, the Golan Heights). He received his BA and MA degrees from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and went to America for doctoral studies, earning his PhD (for a thesis on the Golan during the Roman and Byzantine periods) from New York University in 1979. Much of his professional career was spent on the study of the Golan, and he published widely on it too: his doctoral thesis, a collection of Greek and other inscriptions from the region (with R.C. Gregg), as well as numerous articles. He also edited (with Paul V.M. Flesher) a collection of studies on ancient synagogues, in which a great proportion of the writing is by the two editors themselves. The second half of his life was spent at Ben Gurion University of the Negev in Beersheba, where he taught several generations of devoted students and from where he led numerous archaeological digs, in particular the renewed excavations at Nessana between 1987 and 1994 (the report is to be published posthumously).

He is survived by his wife, Mety, a daughter, Lia, and a granddaughter, Yam.

The Editors