

Obituary for Dr. Horst Strohkendl

We, the DRS Rollikids, sorrow after our founder and father Dr. Horst Strohkendl.

His death came unexpected and we were and still are really shattered about it. He was strongly connected to our faculty of wheelchair sports for youths such as the doctrine. It is due to him that since 1980 the wheelchair sport for kids started and developed in form of sports clubs and later got to the schools as well. At the same time the doctrine of that subject evolved in the DRS and it became an important part of wheelchair sports in Germany.

Horst Strohkendl also was the precursor of many parts of the wheelchair sports, especially for rugby and basketball. He did not only do that in Germany, he had worldwide connections that held on over decades. „To establish a scope in the long-term it needs one dedicated person and 10 years of work“ was his credo which he lived and taught all around the world.

As main goal of rehabilitation he mostly supported self determination such as the emancipation of each wheelchair in the everyday life.

His way to transport this was sport which includes a togetherness, many games and of course the joy of doing all of that. He put all his energy in every single person he taught how to drive a wheelchair.

His „10 steps to a blissful life“ which he used over decades to teach people how to balance on the back wheels of a wheelchair are legendary.

And of course that also counts for all of his wisdoms which all were very helpful for so many people.

„Nothing will work without a relationship“

A saying that fits in all scopes of life as well as in tuition.



Dear Horst, we all are so sad about you leaving us so suddenly.
You helped us at so many points of our life and we all are so thankful for everything you taught us.

For us you were a teacher, as admonisher to concentrate on the most important things, as a person helping us on our way of life, and especially for me you were a paternal friend who I always felt really connected to.

Now it's on us to share the knowledge and wisdoms that you had and work together to achieve the goals you had.

Even if you physically left us we still feel everything you worked for and we will still be committed to work with your spirit in mind.

We thank you for everything.

Ute Herzog writing for the DRS Rollikids

Hennef, the 29th of August 2018