

PEOPLE PASS AWAY...

People pass away. There is nothing unusual about that, but still it evokes disagreement and a sense of loss. It happens when someone close, a family member or a friend, passes away. Sometimes, however, this is also felt with people we greatly appreciate, respect and admire, people who significantly influenced our lives. Nina Józwiak was such a person for me. We never worked together, as we were involved in different research projects, and we had no institutional links. But looking at my path of scientific career, I can clearly see that Nina had a very important impact on it. Being an economist, I do not specialize in demography and I do not conduct any research in that respect. But thanks to Nina, I understood and deeply internalized the profound effect of population-related processes on economic development. My today's research focuses exactly on the interaction between the areas of interest of demographers and economists. It even seems to me that it is impossible to understand economy without at least basic demographic knowledge and without understanding the power of impact of demographic changes on practically all interest areas of economy. I owe understanding this to frequent interactions with Nina and the team of outstanding demographers she headed.

I will miss Nina's gentle smile on the corridors of the Warsaw School of Economics, or at various university events. Her friendliness, or – as I believe – also a certain degree of appreciation of my modest achievements, did not have to be expressed verbally. You could just feel it naturally. I was and always will be very proud of the fact that I could develop my scientific skills in her inspiring company. I will miss her very much, but what she left in people who worked with her, will always be a part of our knowledge and experience.

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