

**To:** Mr. Ahmed ElBerry – “Ahram Post”

**From:** Mina Badie Abdel Malek – Faculty of Engineering – Alexandria University

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Alexandria University in general and the staff of the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science and Engineering Department in particular, bade farewell to a valued colleague and distinguished scientist, Professor Dr. Khalil Mohamed Ahmed. Professor Khalil left clear positive fingerprints on the university and the college, and his efforts as well as his support of many colleagues, students and doctoral candidates at the Faculty of Engineering will long be remembered. He was also a regular presence at the readers post section of Al-Ahram newspaper “Ahram Post”.

Professor Khalil was born in the district of Karmouz (one of Alexandria’s old neighborhoods) in March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1938. He obtained his primary school certificate from Fuad I school in 1949, and his secondary school education certificate (science section) in 1953 from the Abbassia Secondary school at Moharram Bek. He also obtained a secondary school education certificate (with specialization) from the Abbassia Secondary school in 1954. He then joined the Faculty of Engineering, Alexandria University, and completed an Honors Bachelor of Electrical Engineering degree with Distinction in June 1959. He was appointed tutor at the Department of Mathematical Sciences and Physics (now the Department of Engineering Mathematics and Physics) in October 1959, and received a medal of excellence from President Gamal Abdel Nasser at the Fifth Science Festival in 1959. In 1961, he completed a master's degree in electrical machinery, and in June 1961, he travelled as part of a National Planning Commission delegation for engineering and production economics to study at Stanford University in the United States. He completed a doctorate degree there in Industrial Engineering in 1967, and in September 1969 took up his lecturer post at the Computer Science and Automatic Control Department at the Faculty of Engineering, Alexandria University (the first department of its kind in the Middle East). Later he returned to Stanford University (September 1972 - July 1973) to benefit from a UNESCO grant offered to the Center for Graduate Studies, Research and Training, Alexandria University. He progressed with excellence in the ranks of academia, becoming an Assistant Professor in November 1975 for his research on the following topics: hydraulic power plants operation policies; measuring priorities of investment in road projects; optimizing cargo ships loads. In November 1980 he reached Professorship for his research in the following topics: digital models and simulation; assessing the growth of newborn children; studying the economics of nursing programs in hospitals; control and analysis of the dynamics of the spread of epidemics and infectious diseases. Moreover, he made a contribution that is still felt and appreciated at the Alexandria University by establishing an integrated network system to set up and manage accounts for computer users at the university.

Professor Khalil was seconded twice to work at Kuwait University, and often traveled to the United States to follow up and discuss the work of students in doctoral supervisions, and to attend specialized scientific conferences. Towards the end of 1997, he started to suffer from heart problems. No expense was spared by the university or the state for his treatment in hospitals in Egypt and the United States. But even during his illness, Professor Khalil never waned in performing his roles at the university, teaching and offering real academic supervision with his known vision and insight. In March 2008 he started working part-time as Emeritus Professor of Engineering at Alexandria University, and in that role, he continued to offer his enlightened thought, sincere advice and heart-felt affection to all those around him. On the night of Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009, God took back his gift, Professor Khalil passed away leaving us with a worthy legacy and the lasting memory of friendship.

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