

Ferenc was one of the most remarkable linguists of his generation. He overcame non-linguistic and non-academic obstacles that later generations have difficulty imagining, and pursued wide range of problems at the highest level. We morphologists owe him a particular debt of gratitude, being one of the very first to apply what were then very new and unfamiliar ideas from generative grammar to our field.

His research legacy within Hungarian linguistics is, I should imagine, unparalleled. From the beginning of his career he made a very considerable contribution to our understanding not only of morphology, but of many other fields of linguistics. I was continually being surprised by the immense breadth and scope of Ferenc's knowledge and expertise.

At the personal level I always found Ferenc to be a person of huge charm, with a gentle but sparkling wit, as well as someone of considerable erudition. He always seemed very happy to support and encourage a younger linguist such as myself, however ignorant or naïve my questions or suggestions might have seemed. He was the kind of scholar any of us should be pleased to emulate. Long may he remain in our memories!

Andrew Spencer