



Esko Hoppu

* 15/1/1935 † 13/7/2016

ESKO HOPPU, emeritus professor of insurance and compensation law at the University of Helsinki, who was born in Helsinki on 15th January 1935, died there on 13th July 2016 after a protracted illness. He had been a member of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters since 1991.

He was appointed to the chair in insurance and compensation law upon its creation on the strength of privately donated funds in 1973 and occupied it until his retirement in 1998.

Hoppu had numerous separate publications on different branches of civil law to his name. He began by studying maritime law and then went on to consider legal aspects of various other modes of transportation. In the 1970s he published a number of works on contractual law as it affected the building industry, a highly topical subject at that time, and later, on taking up his professorship, he turned to legal aspects of the insurance business, chiefly concerning legal expenses insurance, multiple cover-

age and cargo insurance. In addition, he drew up a comprehensive treatise of the legal principles governing insurance contracts.

Hoppu held prominent positions of trust in scientific and professional organizations throughout his career, including the chairmanship of the country's leading organization representing legal research, the Finnish Lawyers' Society.

Esko Hoppu was well-known outside the university as an arbitrator, acting for a long time as an assessor of damages under maritime law and serving on numerous dispute resolution boards in the insurance sector. He was also involved as an independent arbitrator in resolving more than a hundred commercial disputes.

His colleagues and students will remember him as a polite gentleman with an unhurried air about him. He commanded respect and trust both in the academic community and among lawyers with his expert knowledge of the law and practical skills.

*Obituary by
Mika Hemmo*