

Since his childhood, Zvi has always been fascinated by the sea. At the age of 15, he already started to sail with a youth movement. At the age of 18, he joined the young Israeli Navy of the Israeli Army (IDF) and became an officer (captain). During the Sinai campaign, he was the head of the force defeating the Egyptian battle ship, Ibrahim El Aouwal. He continued his love to the sea in the young Israeli Merchant Naval Fleet and became first officer. Then, he decided to study naval engineering in Columbia University, New York, USA. However, very fast, he fell in love with Chemistry and obtained his PhD in Chemistry under the supervision of Prof. Harry Gray, a very close teacher and tutor. He obtained an appointment of associate professor in Temple University, Philadelphia, USA. Then he moved to the Technion, Haifa, Israel, where he became full professor. He was always dedicated to science and teaching chemistry. Indeed, he only agreed to be the Students' Dean and denied any other administrative position. Zvi was an expert in inorganic chemistry and specialized in synthetic and structural coordination chemistry. His early work includes the synthesis and physical characterization of transition metal complexes that contain nitrogen and sulfur ligands (1). Later, he collaborated with F.A. Cotton and made significant contributions in the field of metal-cluster chemistry (2). He was always fascinated with the role of metal atoms in biological systems and dedicated a large portion of his research in this direction (3). In addition to science he was very much interested in art and music and always said that science and art have a common interface. Looking at a nice molecule is as moving as a nice painting or as watching a beautiful scenery. This love led him to found and build the first Science Museum in Israel in Haifa (Mada-Tech). There he constructed himself many of the scientific models. This museum is still the best Science Museum in Israel and is very well known abroad.

Etana Padan (sister)

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2. Bino, A; Cotton, F. A; Dori, Z. Trinuclear Molybdenum(IV) Cluster Compound Having an Unusual Structure and Stability Journal of the American Chemical Society 100 ,5252-5253 (1978).
3. Mirsky, N; Weiss, A; Dori, Z. Chromium in Biological Systems .1. Some Observation on Glucose-Tolerance Factor in Yeast Journal of Inorganic Biochemistry 13, 11-21 (1980).