



ABI INGO VALENTINI

30th October 1973 – 21st July 2023

It is with great sadness that we have to inform you that our comrade and friend Ingo Valentini has passed away.

In 1989, Ingo joined the volunteer fire brigade in Göfis, where he quickly took on important functions. From 1992 to 2007, he was secretary, then deputy commander until 2013 and commander of the fire brigade since 2013. In addition, from 2004 to 2014, as a youth leader, youth work was also very close to his heart. For many years, he was available to the Vorarlberg Fire Service Association (LFV) as a judge for many firefighting competitions.

In 1998 Ingo became a member of Working Group 8 "Fire Service History" of the LFV Vorarlberg. In the following year he took part for the first time – another 15 participations were to follow – in a conference of the International Study Group for the History of Fire Service and Fire Protection in the CTIF, of which he has been chairperson since 2012. In 2016, he became the responsible person (Landessachbearbeiter) for Fire Service History in the LFV Vorarlberg and Head of the Vorarlberg Fire Service Museum in the Vorarlberger Museumswelt. Three years later, he was officially delegated to the commission 1.5 "Fire Brigade History and Documentation" of the Austrian Fire Service Association (ÖBFV), where he had already been a welcome guest several times before.

Ingo was always a man of action and word – his "Alpine English", as he called it himself, was legendary – and writing, on the other hand, was not his great passion. Nevertheless, in the course of time he wrote two books about his home fire brigade and six articles for the conference volumes of the International Study Group. Also worth mentioning, is an article in the book about decorations published by the ÖBFV in 2022.

As a professional computer engineer, it has always been important to him to present the history of fire service in a modern way and to use the digital possibilities for this purpose. The topic of "digital long-term preservation" has been important to him.

Ingo lived for the fire service like no other. He was interested in all aspects of the fire brigade: technical aspects, constant development in general, competitions, training and, last but not least, history. There was no aspect of firefighting that he had nothing to say or an opinion about.

Central to him was true friendship, which he himself lived and cultivated intensively. No distance was too far for him from Vorarlberg to be able to attend an important fire brigade event for an evening or a day.

Friendships developed throughout Austria and internationally, in which Ingo shared his private interests and passions. Those were the moments when you really got to know Ingo. He talked about his family, his hometown, his love for mountains and skiing and the technical handicrafts he worked on together with his son.

Ingo had known since the beginning of July that his time was coming to an end, just not when. With him, many of us lose not only a fellow firefighter, but also a good friend whom we will miss so sorely. Our sympathy goes especially to his wife Simone and their children Florian and Sarah, who have lost an irreplaceable part of their lives forever.

For the

CTIF-Commission *History of Fire Services and CTIF, Museums and Documentation*,
International Study Group for the History of Fire Service and Fire Protection in the CTIF and
ÖBFV commission *History, Documentation and Decorations*

Gerald Schimpf BA
CTIF commission chairperson

Dr. Christian K. Fastl
ÖBFV commission chairperson