

James P. G. Sterbenz – In memoriam



James' last stop is at Hp0 "Halt", at a German semaphore signal, which he loved to watch and take pictures of, in their former West German (as above) and East German variants.

His thousands of pictures taken on and of world-wide train signaling systems are documenting a wonderful aspect of life: Stop and go, move slowly, shunting traffic only, and ... very finally, halt. His life came to an unexpected, way too early, and tremendously shocking emergency stop. Not even the Zs 1 – the "Ersatzsignal" (substitution signal) 🚧 – can make that path to be used again ... what a loss for his wife Kris, daughter Kat, family, and all his friends and colleagues.



(1) James at KU's Edward Campus in Overland Park, KS on September 11, 2018, (2) James at the tracks of BNSF in Lawrence, KS on September 12, 2018, and (3) James (hidden to the right) and his wife Kris at the Reuter Organ Company's production site in Lawrence, KS on September 21, 2018.

James was an enthusiastic computer networks and communications person, looking into Future Internet architectures, mobile wireless networks, and MANET routing. James' work on resilient, survivable, and disruption tolerant networks made him renown world-wide, and his research work is highly respected. His team and students liked him due to his unconventional, but highly demanding character. James' technical skills were always up to the point, up to the last bit of detail, insisting on correctness and ethical behavior as well as data privacy aspects, and last but not least focusing on the scientific advance, the knowledge gain to be shared!

James had been with us, at the CSG@IfI of the University of Zürich for multiple times, he visited Zürich passionately often, seeing quite a few friends around here, and traveled to interact professionally with people and colleagues, and for his hobby with signaling followers.

We all will miss you ... RIP – in deep sadness and indefinite grief.

One of your communications *and* signaling companions, *Burkhard and his CSG team*