



Rolf Nevanlinna

Rolf Nevanlinna in memoriam

Rolf Herman Nevanlinna was born in Joensuu, Finland, October 22, 1895 and died in Helsinki on May 29, 1980. He came from a prominent family many members of which, male and female, had shown distinct talent for mathematics even when not professional mathematicians. His father, Otto Nevanlinna, was the leading teacher of mathematics at the gymnasium level. An uncle, E. R. Neovius, was professor of mathematics at the University of Helsinki and known for notable contributions to the Calculus of Variation. His brother, Frithiof Nevanlinna, was also, in later years, professor at the same university; he is best known for joint work with the slightly younger Rolf. The two brothers were very close and inspired each other in and outside of mathematics.