

## M. ZUHAIR NASHED: A BIOGRAPHICAL TRIBUTE

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**1. Introduction.** This special issue of the Journal of Integral Equations and Applications is dedicated by the editors and authors to M. Zuhair Nashed as an expression of their high regard for his many contributions to various fields of mathematical analysis related to the theory and application of integral and operator equations. Nashed was a co-founding editor of the progenitor of this journal and is an Editor Emeritus of JIEA. The papers in this issue span many of the areas, from approximations to wavelets, to which Professor Nashed has made contributions.

**2. Family Background and Education.** Zuhair Nashed is a native of Aleppo in northwest Syria, one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world, which is famous for its architecture and cultural institutions. Aleppo's strategic location, midway between the Euphrates and the Mediterranean, enabled it to flourish as an ancient caravan crossroad and commercial center; it is now a transportation and business hub for the modern middle east. Zuhair is the first born in a large and prosperous family that included two brothers and five sisters. His father, Zaki Nashed, was a prominent businessman in the import/export trade, a revered profession in the Aleppo tradition. Zaki Nashed expanded and transformed a small textile business into a very successful firm with significant international connections. He placed a very high value on education and provided the means for Zuhair to obtain the best education possible.

Nashed attended high school at Aleppo College, an American-style school which operated under the aegis of the Congregational Church. George Miller, then Dean of Aleppo College, recognized his analytical talent and encouraged him to pursue a career in engineering. After spending an undergraduate year at the American University of Beirut (in the late sixties he would return to AUB as a visiting associate