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## **Alexander Bastrykin offers condolences to Georgy Grechko's family and friends**



Twice Hero of the Soviet Union Georgy Grechko, a legendary man, an example for many generations of young cosmonauts died today aged 85.

He was one of the best representatives of cosmonautics and gave his whole life to this most difficult profession. He started to take interest in the space travel science when he was a child and later finished the Leningrad Military Mechanics Institute and defended a graduation paper at the best construction department – the Korolyov's department to become a true professional appreciated and respected way beyond the Soviet Union and Russia. He was the first Leningrader in space which makes me especially proud.

His contribution to the rapid development of the Soviet and Russian cosmonautics can hardly be overrated: he was not only a seasoned cosmonaut, a great professional, but had a wonderful and almost unique talent: he could explain complicated things very easily and skillfully.

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Mr. Grechko found time for our team as well. He was a member of the Council of Heroes and an honorary member of the Civic Council under the Investigative Committee. Attending our events he shared his life experience, gave valuable advice to our employees, including that regarding patriotic education of the younger generation and was never indifferent to the problems of others.

I offer my heartfelt condolences to Mr. Grechko's family and friends. He was an irreplaceable in many ways man, a sympathetic and amiable personage. We are grieving with you. Warmest memories of Mr. Grechko will always stay in our hearts.

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