

Yves through Altimetric ages

Tribute To Yves Menard

# *Yves during the altimetry pioneers period*

- Yves graduated from Ecole Geophysique de Strasbourg
  - Xavier Le Pichon Father of Tectonic Plates theory came from this school
- Then, he worked under the direction of Michel Lefebvre (GRGS), dealing with preliminary altimetry data :
  - Computation of mean sea surface around Kerguelen using GEOS 3
  - First use of the collinear track technique with SEASAT data
    - Validation of new improved tidal models in the English Channel from Christian Le Provost
    - Analysis of western boundary currents : Gulf Stream, Kuro Shivo

## ***This work was the base of his PHD Thesis in 1982***

First space oceanography PHD in France

- After his thesis he was hired by CNES and formally member of GRGS (now LEGOS)
  - Strong involvement in research and application of altimetry
  - Yves stayed two years in Washington with his family (1985-1986) working with Bob Cheney in NOAA

*In parallel Yves conducted a high level Sport involvement, being member of the Villefranche de Lauraguais Rugby team*

- *Conjunction between his professional and sportive career led to a famous match between the Villefranche de Lauraguais team and a Washington University team*

# *Yves during altimetry golden ages*

- After TOPEX/POSEIDON project new start decision, Yves joined in 1988 the French TOPEX/POSEIDON project team headed by Michel Dorrer, in charge of Calval activities :
  - Design and implementation of CNES calibration site in Lampedusa (Italian Island near Tunisia)
- When Michel Lefevre retired in 1994, Yves was selected as CNES Jason 1 Project scientist, working with Lee Fu, NASA project scientist :
  - In parallel Yves continued his scientific involvement in Calval activities, in particular setting up the new calibration site in Corsica

Following a serious injury Yves had to stop his sport activity as rugby player

- However he continued to be inspired in his life by the rugby spirit :
    - GIVING FEELING OF QUIET FORCE
    - HUMBLE WITHIN THE PACK
    - BUT MAKING "TERRIFIC RUNS"
    - TRYING TO HAVE TRIES (TOUCH DOWNS)
    - BEING PLAYMAKER FOR TEAMMATES
    - LEADING THE "THIRD HALF " ACTIVITIES
- (M. Lefevre message)

# *Yves and TOPEX project team in Kourou*



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# *Yves during recent altimetry period*

- In 2004 at the beginning of Jason2 development phase, following an organization change at CNES Yves came back to LEGOS in the team directed by Anny Cazenave
  - In 2006 he headed the CNES team in this joint Laboratory
  - In parallel he continued his science activity, directing students
- Moreover he continued his activity as CNES project Scientist in coordination with Lee Fu NASA project scientist
  - Every member of the successive SWTs, OSTSTs keep vibrant memories of Yves action to animate every meeting during formal session and after during the “Third half” events.