



## Rabbe Sjöberg

Sverige / Sweden

From 14. June 1941  
to 05. April 2024

### Comments by Johannes Lundberg:

Rabbe will be very much missed and impossible to replace. He was really the only academic speleologist in Sweden and one of very few that had his focus on pseudokarst. Rabbe (born 14th June, 1941) was active on Facebook until last month and very much so before Christmas, trying to keep track of any news from the Swedish Speleological Society SSF. His scientific output declined however when his mentor and good friend Nils-Axel "Niklas" Mörner passed away recently (Rabbe wrote an In Memoriam for Niklas in the Pseudokarst Newsletter no 30). Recently, his and Niklas ideas about neotectonic and methane gas venting origin of the many larger "fracture caves" in Sweden has been questioned and alternative explanations ("glacial ripping", first published by Adrian Hall et al in 2020) has been proposed. His last major paper in the Swedish caving magazine Grottan was about the origin of Bodagrottorna ("Så bildades Bodagrottorna", published in June 2022) that can perhaps be seen as some kind of rebuttal to a paper by Adrian Hall and Maarten Krabbendam, published in the previous issue, but without going into polemic. (Rabbe published one last piece in Grottan one year ago, a retrospect on a meeting that he and SSF arranged in 1973).

With the passing of first Niklas and now Rabbe there will be no-one that can "defend" the hypothesis of a neotectonic origin of Swedish fracture caves. The Swedish Speleological Society was very dear to Rabbe. He was not a founding member, but he was one of the very first if not the first to pay the membership fee! Rabbe was honorary member in the society since 2018 and he also made sure to visit all the Annual Meetings, including the last one on the island of Öland one year ago. We will miss him.