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Obituary

Serge Chasseuil (1953-1972)

has left us

- Features - In Memoriam - Obituaries and appreciations -

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Serge Chasseuil , my friend and comrade, has passed away. He had been experiencing health problems which had kept him away from activism in recent months, hence his absence from various gatherings in the Charente region.

Serge was an activist. Internationalism was in his blood. Even in recent years, he was committed to showing solidarity with peoples, particularly the Palestinians but also the Ukrainians. He always lamented the lack of people involved in these struggles, which he considered essential in the current climate. Defending people against capitalist, imperialist, or colonialist injustice was his hallmark.

He began his activism in the 1970s, at a very young age. He was involved with the Communist League, then the LCR, and later the NPA. His internationalism led him to forge closer ties with the Morenist movement in Argentina, a country he loved dearly. But despite some disagreements with the LCR leadership regarding Nicaragua, he remained loyal in the long term to his party, which championed an open and practical Marxism.

A trade union activist, he led the CFDT section in the Thales company in the Paris region for many years. He advocated a class struggle stance that has unfortunately disappeared from the CFDT.

Upon retiring, he returned to live in Charente, where he was born near Cognac. He often spoke to us about Genté, about his early struggles as a high school student in Angoulême. In retirement, he reconnected with his comrade Jean-Louis, a fellow activist and friend from the very beginning, who was also a militant in the LCR and later the NPA.

Serge shaped my political views. He had a real knack for things, as they say, and above all, he never hesitated to take action. For him, talk was useless without concrete results. Together, we travelled throughout the Charente region (and beyond) to present Philippe Poutou's candidacy to the mayors [1]. He and another comrade, Gérard, played a significant role in enabling us to run for office. He was also involved in the fight against the mega-reservoirs and, in fact, in all kinds of mobilizations on every issue.

People who frequent the Victor Hugo market in Angoulême were sure to recognize his face, as he was there almost every Sunday selling the NPA newspaper whenever he could. Readers of the paper know Serge somewhat, since for years he contributed to the Culture section, notably with numerous articles on comics. He was a passionate comic book fan and a regular at the Angoulême International Comics Festival, and signed his work with his pseudonyms "S. Cachi" or "Sylvain Chardon".

Also passionate about travel and mountain hiking, he explored the Andes and the Himalayas, among other places, with our friend Jean-Louis. We were recently discussing a trip to Latin America. But life had other plans.

We miss Serge terribly. His passing is hard to accept. It's the loss of a comrade, but also a friend. I send all my love to his loved ones, his daughter, his family and to his friend Jean-Louis.

Fair winds, comrade.

5 December 2025

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PS:

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[1] To be candidate in the presidential election in France, it is necessary to be sponsored by 500 elected officials