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## Peter Schwintzer and his contributions to space gravity and solid Earth research

## Ch. Reigber

GeoForschungsZentrum Potsdam (GFZ), c/o DLR Oberpfaffenhofen, Germany (Contact Email reigber@web.de/Fax-Nr. +49-8153-28-1735)

In December 2004 Peter Schwintzer, head of section 'Gravity Field and Earth Models' of GFZ Potsdam and exceptional contributor to the modern era of space geodesy, passed suddenly away. As a tribute to his outstanding contributions for the modern space geodetic missions CHAMP, GRACE and GOCE session G8 is devoted to him. The presentation serves as introduction to the session, highlighting Peter Schwintzer's scientific career and achievements as scientist, group leader and esteemed colleague.