When I registered in the University of the Witwatersrand for the B.A. degree, intending to major in Classics, I met a young lecturer there, a Mr Naude. He taught us not only Latin authors like Pliny, but also Ancient History. I particularly remember his course on the Gracchi brothers, and still have the notes I took on it. It made no concessions to undergraduates: we were made to look up and discuss the main original sources in Latin. Mr Naude was not a flamboyant lecturer who played to his audience. His main concern was always scholarship, to the great benefit of his students. Yet, he was personally always approachable and friendly: on one occasion I can well remember him actually bringing some extra material to me at my home. Whenever we approached him for scholarly discussion or advice or even that bane of the academic, a reference, one was met with a ready smile and genuine interest. When I submitted my first article to Acta Classica, he took the trouble to send me two pages of comments, much to my profit. His comparatively early departure from the University of the Witwatersrand deprived that institution of one who could have made a great contribution there. Many years later, when he was teaching in the University of South Africa, I had to review his students’ work as external examiner. He had clearly meticulously maintained his standards in the courses on historiography.

Charles Naudé was born in Aliwal North in 1912. His father, Ds W.S. Naude, was a distinguished minister of religion there. He wrote a work on the Bible, Waarvandaan ons Bybel? (1938), which Prof. Naudé was contemplating reissuing at the time of his death. Throughout his life, Prof. Naudé remained a devout Christian. His generosity once earned him the sobriquet of ‘amper moruti’, Afrikaans and Sotho for ‘almost a minister’. His wife, formerly Miss D. du Plessis, also grew up in Aliwal North. She studied English, and even won a scholarship to Oxford, but personal
circumstances at the time prevented her from taking it up. They have a daughter, now Mrs D. Steenkamp.

After matriculating, Prof. Naudé worked in a government department for some years while studying part-time at the University of the Witwatersrand. In 1937 he was awarded the degree of B.A. Hons in Classics. The outbreak of war in 1939 prevented his taking up a scholarship to Oxford which he had been awarded. Instead, he was appointed as lecturer at the University of the Witwatersrand, where he received his M.A. in 1943. In 1946 he was able to go to Oxford, where he studied Literae Humaniores, a traditional course covering Ancient History and Philosophy. His tutor at St John’s was Mr A.N. Sherwin-White.

He returned to the University of the Witwatersrand, where he was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1953. After a period of study at the University of Leiden, where his promoter was Professor W. den Boer, he was awarded his doctorate. His dissertation was published (in Afrikaans) under the title *Ammianus Marcellinus in the Light of Ancient Historiography* (Leiden 1956). He was made a corresponding member of the Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen and contributed several reviews to the Dutch periodicals *Bibliotheca Orientalis* and *Mnemosyne*. In South Africa, he became a member of the Suid-Afrikaanse Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns.

In 1959, he joined the University of South Africa, where he became the founding professor of the newly created Chair of Ancient History and Historiography (which was created in his honour). He retired officially in 1977, but took great pleasure in being a ‘research assistant’ for many years more.

He made a distinguished contribution to the Classical Association of South Africa, which he had helped to refound in 1958, and of which he was Honorary Treasurer from 1959 to 1977. During all those years he served on the Editorial Board of *Acta Classica*. Volume 20 (1977) was dedicated to him in appreciation of his services to the Association: cf., in that volume, H.L. Gonin, ‘Caroli P.T. Naudé in honorem’, vii; with a tribute by his colleagues and friends, viii-ix; and a list of his publications up to that time, ix-x.
Besides his book on Ammianus Marcellinus, Prof. Naudé published several articles, both in national and international journals, mainly in the field of historiography. One may perhaps be noted, the prophetic ‘The Romanization of underdeveloped peoples in the Roman Empire’ (in Afrikaans, with an English summary) in the Mededelings van die Universiteit van Suid-Afrika B11 (Pretoria 1960) 5-17. Romanization is currently a hotly debated topic.

To mark his eightieth birthday, his successor in the Chair of Ancient History and Historiography at the University of South Africa, Professor Ursula Vogel-Weidemann, produced a Festschrift in his honour, Charistion C.P.T. Naudé, edited by U. Vogel-Weidemann & J. Scholtemeijer (Miscellanea Generalia 15, UNISA, Pretoria 1993). Included was an appreciation of him by Professor Vogel-Wiedemann (1-2), and a list of his publications (2-4) – to which should be added his review article on E. Badian, From Plataea to Potidaea. Four Studies in the History and Historiography of the Pentacontaetia (The Johns Hopkins University Press, London, 1993) in AClass 30 (1996) 77-85.

He was a man of deep humility, a great teacher and scholar, and always the perfect gentleman.

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