

## In Memoriam of Lorenzo Marcucci

(February 7, 1928 - January 21, 2018)

A few days before his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, Lorenzo passed away. He was one of the last survivors of that generation of enthusiastic colleagues who contributed decisively to the success and progress of the Italian ENT Society. Lorenzo was from Tuscany and in Florence he began studying medicine, even though Parma was where he completed his professional training and the city that would become the most important for him. It was here that he completed his specialist ENT preparation at the school directed by Carlo Felice Porta. He remained for a long time at the Parma clinic, seeing patients and carrying out teaching and research that earned him, together with his human qualities, the esteem and friendship of all his colleagues, feelings that remained unchanged forever. He maintained this particularly deep fraternal bond throughout his life, especially with Piero Miani, and started collaborations that contributed much to the life and development of our Scientific Societies (particularly AOOI and SIO). Lorenzo preferred a clinical career over that of academia, and in 1965 transferred to Viterbo to become Head of the Neonatal ENT Division, a position he kept until his retirement in 1998.

Among his scientific contributions, I want to mention those related to bacterial infections in ENT, a subject that fascinated him for many years and which was the subject of his official SIO report at the 1986 National Congress, in addition to many communications at conferences on otorhinolaryngology and infectious diseases.

In truth, Lorenzo's main passion was his constructive contribution that for many years gave life to the development of our Scientific Societies. He always participated with constancy until a few years ago as a member of the AOOI Board of Directors, of which he held the Presidency from 1988 to 1990, and of SIO, which he directed in the 1994/1995. He was always full of useful advice dictated by his sense of equilibrium and immense common sense. His dedication to the ENT Societies (he was also Honorary Member of the Spanish ENT Society) was related in part to an admirable spirit of service, but also by the desire to see his colleagues and dear friends as often as possible.

One of the main characteristics of Lorenzo Marcucci was his sense of deep friendship, which was always reciprocated with affection because of his good spirit, availability and kindness. He was one of those few, very rare people who can confidently be defined as a friend of everyone.

In these last years he returned to Parma, to Rubbiano, near his daughter Federica, and, despite having been bedridden for a long time, his lively spirit and sense of humour remained unchanged. He was always a joy to speak with on the phone, remembering his friends and travels. For me, he was precious company that made the loss, in recent years, of many dear friends a bit more tolerable. Today, his loss makes me dwell even more on the sadness of loneliness.

Goodby dear Lorenzo, you have been a friend for the last 50 years who I will never forget.



Giorgio Sperati