

In Memoriam of Mirko Tos

Perhaps it will have been for our common Balkan origin, perhaps for a nice affection that has always approached us, perhaps for the common scientific speculative interests, but our relations have been in the last 30 years really close.

Professor Mirko Tos, light and leader in the Otorhinolaryngological field, born in 1931 in Vitomarci (Slovenia) at that time Jugoslavija, left us at the end of last January.

As a young doctor he left Slovenia with his wife Nives for Germany and worked on the Verband station in Wuppertal; later they moved to Veile in Denmark where he found a position as junior physician for two years.

In order to go on as doctor in Denmark, he graduated once again on the University of Copenhagen and was appointed as ENT in the Glostrup County Hospital.

In 1972 was appointed as co-chairman in the ENT department of Gentofte Hospital and in 1980 became Chairman.

For many years his clinic was the destination of hundreds of ENTs, from all over the world, who have always received a warm and productive welcome.

Mirko was truly a great teacher, he deeply loved the discussion with the young specialists who, in every scientific occasion, sought him to have advice and areas of new research.

A clever surgeon, he was also a scrupulous researcher, he organised many clinical researcher groups on Otolaryngology and Rhinology, and published hundreds of works on tubo-tympanum, acoustic neuroma, cholesteatoma, Secretory Otitis Media and on nasal polyps going deep into the pathophysiology of the middle ear and nasal mucosa with important histological observations.

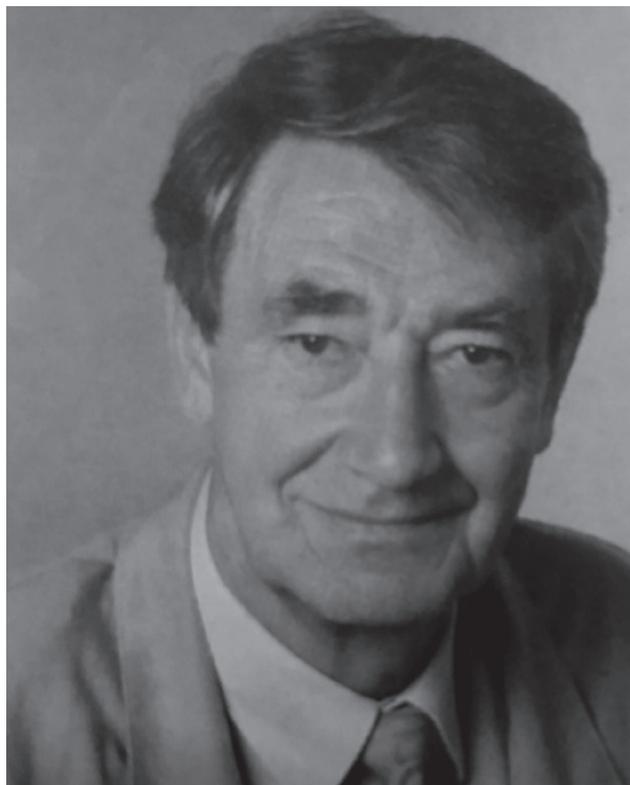
He was the organiser and chairman of a number of international instructional courses on middle ear and acoustic neuroma surgery, as well as courses on functional endoscopic sinus surgery.

Several times we discussed together with Jacob Sadè, David Lim and Charlie Bluestone the role of the Eustachian tube in otitis and I was honoured and happy to participate and listen to their ideas, sometimes conflicting, but always lively and productive.

In 2001, at the age of 70, he retired, but the next year he was appointed as the first professor of Oto-rhino-laryngology at the new University in Maribor; while maintaining this position until 2011, but still living in Denmark, during spring and fall he enjoyed days in Slovenia, on beautiful lake Bled in the Julian Alps.

Active and a sportsman, during holidays Mirko enjoyed tennis, skiing and windsurfing, especially in the Adriatic sea never without his wife Nives and loved daughters Miriam, Vivian and Tina.

Certainly, we will miss Mirko's smile and leadership, but his memory can never disappear from those who knew him, appreciating his skills of excellent clinician and enthusiastic researcher.



Desiderio Passali