IN MEMORIAM

DOCTOR IULIAN STRATAN -
THE PROFESSIONAL, THE MAN, THE FRIEND...

Born in 1938 in a christian family, his father being priest in parish Tibana, where he founded a new church, he was a meritorious graduated of the boys’ high school from Roman and in 1956 succeeded at the difficult entrance exam (13 candidates for a place) to the Faculty of Medicine in Iasi. In faculty, he belongs to one of the elite group of our series subjecting him to a terrible concurrence which has stimulated him permanent becoming one of the best students. He completed education in 1962 being scored with grade A (10) at the licence exam. According to repartition he opted for a job of trainee doctor at TB Sanatorium from Dobrita (“The Magic Mountain of Romania”), where he was affected to the surgical department. Having the support of an excellent physician Dr. Nicolae Rusdea, the young doctor was directed to the compartment of anesthesia, situated at the beginning in our country and he was precocious-forming in the new specialty.

Succeeding the first at the contest residency he chosen an appointment in Anesthesia-Intensive Care in the IIIrd Surgical Clinic, directed by renowned Professor Gheorghe Chipail who adopted, guided and formed him in the first years of career. He was also resident of Professor George Litarczek, in one of the first series of the newly established specialty and become successively specialist (1970) and senior physician (1978) and from 1980 to 2007 Head of Anesthesia and Intensive Care Clinic of “Sf. Spiridon” County Clinical Emergency Hospital from Iasi.

Devoted until to the sacrifice to his profession, he was continuously preoccupied by his theoretical and practical training and evolution by a solid documentation and frequent participation at refresher courses and national or international meetings getting in the last part of his career as a leading authority in the domain. Predicting perhaps his future professional consumption, he was married early during the college years, becoming a youthful father, grandfather and even great-grandfather. He has not neglected the family, but his time, energy and intelligence were confiscated by the medical activity.

We worked together for more than two decades, benefiting substantially by his competence and thoroughness solving as a team numerous difficult cases, especially in emergency but also in oncologic and endocrine surgery. We have collaborated directly and honestly without pride or preconceived ideas, but mostly conflicts. He did not flaunt his knowledge, but he argued loudest when justice was (almost always) by his side. He was unequalled in sensing of postoperative complications and predicting unfortunate evolutions.

We had no special relationship during the college, friendliness between us formed and perfected in the period of commune
activity, but also in the years we worked in different hospitals.

We both shared the passion for lecture and later for fine arts and classic music. He owned a vast library and was also a faithful auditor of the Philharmonic concerts in Iasi.

He has surprising wide knowledge in all these fields, where we had long colloquies in which I learned much. We often disagreed but without passion or preciousness. Considered to be a difficult man, he masked his shyness and sensibility by an apparent social misanthropy including in the professional environment of that total detached in private conversations where prove a wise, honest and generous man. He demonstrated all these qualities many years during some less happy events in both of our existence.

Finally, he supported with stoicism but conscient and especially with plenty dignity his prolonged sufferance during the last years, leaving us serene and reconciled.

Farewell Iulian….

Mihai Radu Diaconescu, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor of Surgery