Professor Luiz Alcides Manreza

Professor Luiz Alcides Manreza left us on December 24, 2011. He graduated from our School in 1968 and, during the course, was one of the pillars of the “Medicine Show”. In the Department of Neurology, in the Division of Neurosurgery of Hospital das Clínicas (HC), at the University of São Paulo Medical School (FMUSP), he had several prominent activities, however there were two of which he was particularly proud: teaching every year to the third, fourth and sixth-year students; and his position as Supervising Physician in the Neurosurgical Emergency Service. In his teaching activities, his skills were enviable: he was able to make clear presentations and made them easy to understand the mechanisms of cranial trauma, intracranial hypertension, and coma. Students always praised his classes. In the emergency service, he implemented attendance protocols, which are still used today, such as the Glasgow Scale, intracranial pressure monitoring (at that time with participation by Doctor Almir de Andrade) and the set of intensive care measures for patients with cranial-encephalic trauma, thereby making the Neurosurgical Emergency Service of HC-FMUSP a national reference point. Hence, he was continually invited to give talks at a variety of events, at which he spoke about his experience and that of the emergency service.

In the field of university extension, in addition to his constant activities through the Brazilian Society of Neurosurgery, Professor Luiz Alcides Manreza had a fundamental role in standardizing the diagnosis of encephalic death. At that time, he was a member of the Technical Board of the Federal Medical Council (CFM) that implemented the Brazilian criteria for this diagnosis. In the Regional Medical Council of São Paulo (CREMESP), he was a member of the Technical Board for Neurosurgery, Neurology, and Pediatric Neurology, and he was a delegate at Hospital São Luiz and at the Delegacy of the Southern Zone of the City of São Paulo.

In our every day routine, he presented a happy and extrovert temperament. With his characteristic voice and punctuated delivery, he gave valuable opinions in the discussions of the Departmental Council. He kept in his memory a precise file on the professors who had made the history of our Department and on the great names of the Brazilian neurosurgery. Today, he is also part of this history, and his memory will always be alive among us, just like his striking participation in the evolution and growth of our Department and Division.

Luiz Alberto Bacheschi
Mario Augusto Taricco
Umbertina Conti Reed