



## Dr. Pablo A. Chiale

It is with deep regret for the early death of Pablo A. Chiale that I would like to share with the cardiology community in Argentina my admiration for this exemplary physician, prominent scientist and outstanding teacher.

His original contributions to cardiology and electrocardiology will remain as a tribute to his intellectual clarity, critical approach, enthusiasm, and instinctive, tireless perseverance. He graduated cum laude from the University of Buenos Aires in 1970, and began his training with Mauricio B. Rosenbaum –who created the prestigious School of Electrocardiography in Argentina, admired across the world.

With his intellectual background and vocation for teaching, Pablo taught with an inclusive approach, allowing for the full development of skills and intellectual energy of his students, convinced that the teacher's task is one of the most important social responsibilities. He thus trained professionals, strengthened by their sense of belonging to an inclusive school that allowed them to transcend.

He built his medical career in the Division of Cardiology of the Hospital Ramos Mejía, his second home, where he was Head of the Admission Unit and Co-Director of the Cardiac Arrhythmia Center of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires (CABA) Government. During my 25 years as Head of that Division, Pablo was always an unconditional partner.

As a tireless scientist, Pablo reached the position of Principal Investigator in the Research Career of the Ministry of Health of CABA. As a university teacher, he was Director of the Cardiology Chair at the Faculty of Medical Sciences of the Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina (UCA). He was also Associate Director of the Argentine Journal of Cardiology and Director of the Arrhythmia & Electrophysiology Journal, edited by the Argentine Society of Cardiac Electrophysiology (SADEC).

His vast scientific production includes the authorship of more than 170 publications about topics including etiopathogenesis of cardiomyopathies and arrhythmias in high-impact international journals, and studies on the pathophysiology and treatment of the wide range of rhythm disturbances. He edited four books, one is still in print. He participated in

countless lectures and speeches in national and international congresses and symposia. He received the Bunge & Born Award, and –among others– the Award to the Best Research Work on nine occasions, established by the Argentine Society of Cardiology.

His love for all musical genres was a remarkable aspect of Pablo's personality. His violin delighted and moved to tears all those who had the privilege to listen to him. His refined sensitivity always exalted the beauty of spirit, art, culture and virtue. His friends from the music world appreciated his artistic values, reflected in his CDs *Todo Corazón* and *Marcapaseando*, real gems for music lovers.

He was as passionate for his family –whom he loved and supported– as he was for medicine. His wife, Marta, and their children, M. Cecilia, Pablo, Claudio, and Marcelo, were fortunate to have an exemplary and devoted head of family. He also had an intense love for his country, and suffered for the social and cultural problems in Argentina.

One of Pablo's defining traits was the passion and enthusiasm that guided him every day at work. Once retired, and while he still had the energy, he would go to the hospital to keep alive "the flame" that lightened the school which he managed to continue.

The whole of Pablo's life synthesizes his greatness and purest spiritual quality, combined with his indomitable character. He was awaiting death, which was approaching slowly, steadily but inexorably. However, Pablo managed to contemplate death without fear, with pride and courage, and to encounter and disregard her with the irritating indifference of his daily work. For him, death seemed to be a mere accident and a circumstance, so that when she came to fetch him, he was surrounded by his family and disciples.

For cardiologists, no one doubts that his passing away means the loss of a leading figure. For his disciples, the loss of the tireless teacher. For his patients, the loss of the doctor who managed to combine his scientific knowledge with a sympathetic attitude towards suffering. However, as a true master and great human being, Pablo will transcend time and space, and will always be with us.

**Marcelo Elizari, MD<sup>MTSAC</sup>**