



Posthumous Letter to Dr. Gianni Corrado

Carta póstuma al Dr. Gianni Corrado

Hello Gianni,

It falls to me to write this letter, and I find it hard to summarize everything I would like to say.

It is hard to condense forty years of friendship in just one page.

Also, I will not be original because I believe I stand for many others who, motivated by their affection, could tell similar things to you.

In the decades since we first met, I did not discover in you virtues that were unknown to me. The novelty is that I never met anyone with all the virtues converging in the same person. I don't know which one was the most outstanding, because it is impossible to be a father, a son, a husband, a friend at the same time, but I feel you stood out in all those roles.

As a friend of yours, I want to highlight that I have never met anyone who enriched the precious and invaluable human capital of friendship as you did.

There was a time when you were an enigma; your attitude caused certain ambivalence in me. At that time, I believed in José Martí's maxim: "*A sad thing it is to not have friends, but even sadder must it be not having any enemies...*" I never knew about your enemies; however, you were not included in the group

of the irrelevant. On the contrary, you were a reference for many others and -although it is too late to tell you now- also for me.

Now, I think Martí was wrong.

Because of the comments and love your patients profess you, whom you gave much more than prescriptions for the body, I am sure you have honored the medical profession.

Today, when any of those patients comes for consultation, I first warn them that, despite my efforts, I will not be able to replace you in everything.

I would like to tell you many other things, but I especially remember when we paraphrased Chaplin together by saying: "*Life is a play that does not allow testing. So, live intensely...before the curtain closes and the piece ends with no applause.*"

Gianni, my dearest friend, I cannot see clearly what I am writing, tears come to my eyes; but I know for sure what I want you to know: you lived with passion, you honored life, and now that the curtain closes, we give you a farewell applause.

Norberto Vulcano, MD^{MTSAC}