

Ricardo Ananía (1944-2018)

Ricardo was born in Florida, a district of Vicente López, in the province of Buenos Aires, on October 4, 1944, in a modest home of workers. His parents José and Catalina instilled in him and his brother Silvio values based on the culture of working, studying, being honest and friendly; I was personally honored with his friendship.

I met him when I was a first-year medical student with his brother, and I established a profound friendship with them which grew as time passed by.

Ricardo graduated as a medical doctor at the age of 22. He entered the cardiology residency program at the old hospital Guillermo Rawson, wards 8 and 9, headed by Dr. Roberto Vedoya.

Dr. Vedoya had been president of the Argentine Society of Cardiology and influenced him to participate in the institution. He loved working at the SAC and became president of the society. Exceptional cardiologists such as Carlos Bertolazzi, Bernardo Boskis, Jorge Trongé, José Navia and Liliana Grinfeld, among others, were members of the Society at that time and relied on him to lead it.

In his fourth year of residency, he made a oneyear rotation in the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory of the Division of Cardiology of the Hospital de Niños Ricardo Gutiérrez, headed by Dr. Alberto Rodríguez Coronel who was his mentor, teacher and friend.

As a specialist in cardiac catheterization, he had an extraordinary ability at a time when only dissection and diagnostic catheterizations were performed. It was there that his work as a teacher was very important, and together with other young doctors, such as Miguel Granja, Luis Trentacoste and Alberto Sciegata, we received a precious education.

At a personal level, we continued our friendship, which we extended to our respective families, sharing the time of marriage and birth of our children.

He was a present father, a beloved godfather, an exceptional guy.

We shared family parties, where we talked a bit about soccer and a lot about the SAC.

He was loved by his patients because of his warmth, kindness, lucidity and advice. And he dedicated himself to them until the final moment: in fact, he was found unconscious in his office.

I would like to thank him personally for his friendship, his advice during my time at the SAC and his unwavering passion for the Society. We only drifted apart for a while due to our different opinions about the relationship between the SAC and the FAC, without ever getting angry and always respecting each other's opinions. It is very difficult to make a biographical sketch reflecting all his virtues. I would just like to tell you, Ricardo, that your path in life illuminated the path for many of us.

We will miss you, rest in peace, we will always keep in mind your lessons, your advice and the friendship we shared.

We will meet again to continue talking about our Society.

Horacio Faella