

Obituary Professor Mario Cammisa, MD

On April 11, 2018, we received the sad news that Professor Mario Cammisa passed away.

He has been a master of life, professionally and personally, able to spread his passion for Medicine and Radiology to everyone who had the honor to work with him.

Even if Professor Cammisa dedicated most of his life to Radiology and researches, he was a great fan of arts, especially classical music and poetry, as many of his colleagues will lovingly remember; In fact, until the last he renewed his subscription to the symphonic music concerts which he would attend every year (he said he did it for luck!). His main interests were Schumann and Romantic music, but lately he also became interested to modern music.

His friends and colleagues will also remember his way to smoke the pipe, his passion for chess game, his love for travelling and mountains. After his retirement in 2004, he went back to his hometown, Rome, where he could fully dedicate to his passions, however still always being available for colleagues who needed him and his advices.

He never stopped writing: he left lots of manuscripts, which he would have collected together and eventually publish, “allegoric” poems, full of melancholic thoughts on time rolling by, dedicated to his children, grandchildren and friends. He loved gathering around his family and friends, and for this reason he used to organize cultural “events” in his house, such as conferences, concerts, or just reading his last compositions.

Professor Cammisa graduated in Medicine and Surgery at the University of Rome “La Sapienza”, then qualified in Radiology in 1959; his thesis “Effetti delle radiazioni ionizzanti sui sistemi enzimatici di importanza biologica” was awarded with the Milani prize as the best scientific thesis in Italy for that year.

As the Head of the Department of Radiology of Scientific Institute “Casa Sollievo della Sofferenza” in San Giovanni Rotondo (Foggia), he did immense work to train, encourage and guide young radiologists in the beginning of their professional career.

In 1966, Professor Cammisa qualified for university teaching at the University of Rome “La Sapienza”, giving his academic contribution to the Italian and international scientific panorama. He taught for fifteen years at the School of Radiology of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Rome, had several refresher courses on Thoracic and Skeletal Radiology, and every year he also organized Senology meetings at the Radiological Institution of University of Naples.

Among the Institutional offices he held, he was councilor of the Italian Society of Medical Radiology (SIRM) for four years in the 1970s; in the first 80s he was first councilor and then President of SIRM Musculoskeletal Radiology section; and between 80s and 90s he was first councilor and then President SIRM Apulian Regional Group.

Professor Cammisa edited and translated for fifteen years the American scientific journal “Seminars in Roentgenology”, in the Italian edition “Progressi in Radiologia”, and was also on the editorial staff of the Scientific Journal “Archivio della Casa Sollievo della Sofferenza”. He is author of more than 250 scientific papers on both Italian and foreign Journals, and wrote numbers of monographies and textbook chapters.

In the year 2002, he was awarded Honorary Membership of the European Society of Musculoskeletal Radiology (ESSR) on occasion of the meeting in Valencia (Congress President: Francisco Aparisi).

To Professor Cammisa goes all our gratitude for what he taught us both as master of Radiology and as example of fairness and honesty which characterized all His life.

San Giovanni Rotondo, 23/05/2018

Professor Giuseppe Guglielmi

