

A colleague, a friend, a fellow in the journeys

In honor of Professor Durval Mazzei Nogueira



1929-2011

“The meaning of life is as follows: there is no meaning in saying that life has no meaning”

Niels Bohr

Professor Durval Mazzei Nogueira passed away February 16th, 82 years old. He left his wife Maria Ignez, three sons, Durval, Arnaldo and Claudia, and six grandsons. He was born in Colina, inland of the State of Sao Paulo, and was graduated in Pharmacy in 1950, in the former Faculty of Pharmacy and Odontology. His first professional activities started in the Institute Medicamento Fontoura, in the sector of Quality, and later, as the head of Hypodermics section. However, he had his roots on teaching and after the invitation of Professor Henrique Tastaldi, from Biological Chemistry cathedra, he started the technical activities later assuming the assistant position. In this cathedra, Prof. Durval conquered all titles of academic carrier, ending with the nomination as “professor of the highest level of academic carrier”.

He was the Dean of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, from 1970 to 1974, facing hard years for the Faculty, considering the University Reform was not a project anymore, but had already started with difficulties for curriculum adaptation. Nevertheless, in this period, Prof. Durval created University Pharmacy and the Laboratories of Clinical Analysis and Toxicology. It is also from this time his collaboration to the Popular Medicines Foundation, as member of its Deliberative Council. He was elected as counselor of the Federal Council of Pharmacy, in 1970, being its President in two periods, 1971 to 1974. In 1978, he was indicated to be Dean of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences for the second time. In this position he was member of the Committee responsible for the creation of the University Hospital. Soon after the Hospital installation, he was the vice-director of the Deliberative Council, from 1978 to 1982, assuming later the direction of the Clinical Analysis Laboratory of that Hospital.

In the area of Clinical Analysis, Prof. Durval was the most enthusiastic defender and for some years was the president of Sao Paulo region of the Brazilian Society of Clinical Analysis. He occupied other positions and functions, mainly in the Latin American Clinical Biochemistry Confederation.

In 1987, Prof. Durval Mazzei Nogueira retired, but did not leave his school: until 1994, he was professor of the Graduate Course, in the course of Glucosides in Clinical Biochemistry. In 1991, he published a book of great interest in the area, *Methods in Clinical Biochemistry*, along with prestigious colleagues. In 2001, he was specially honored by the Federal Council of Pharmacy with the Commend of the Pharmaceutical Merit.

As a colleague, friend and fellow of journeys, since 1956, I could not think about his passing, as we always talked about ourselves, about our families, our colleagues and many others.

Following Carlos Drummond de Andrade I must say: "I have reason to miss you, to miss our acquaintance in nice talks, simple to shake our hands, not even this, voice modulating known and vulgar syllables which were always certainty and security. Yes, I miss this. Yes, I blame on you because you did neither the predicted in the friendship law and nature nor left us the right to ask why you did it, because you left us. Did you advance the hour?"

Prof. Dr. José Carlos Barbério
Dean of the Faculty of
Pharmaceutical Sciences, 1982-1986