

OBITUARY

Professor Vladimir Luetić, M.D., Ph.D. (1927. - 2000.)

At the beginning of this year, we had to face the grim fact that Vladimir Luetić, member of the Editorial Council of our journal, departed this life.

Vladimir Luetić was born in 1927. He was an expert in the field of vascular surgery. From 1977, he was professor of surgery at the Zagreb University School of Medicine. He was head of the Division of Vascular Surgery, University Department of Surgery, Zagreb University Hospital Center. Last year, he headed University Department of Surgery, Split University Hospital.

Professor Luetić acquired his postgraduate education at the leading University Departments in Germany and Italy. His scientific profile was shaped while he was member of Alexander-von-Humboldt Foundation. Professor Luetić was visiting professor at School of Medicine, University of Milan, for the subject of angiosurgery at postgraduate courses. He was elected member of the Scientific Committee for Angiosurgery of European Union. In 1990, he was elected corresponding member, and in 1992 regular member of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts. He was chairman of the Atherosclerosis Committee of the Medical Department of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts.

In his fruitful career, Professor Luetić published 143 papers, one monograph, and two chapters on angiosurgery in books edited by Croatian editors. He himself edited ten proceedings of postgraduate courses on surgery, three of them international and thus bilingual. His papers have been cited in national and international publications by authors from Croatia and abroad.



Professor Luetić established vascular surgery as a profession at the Zagreb University School of Medicine and all over Croatia. He was founder of the Department of Vascular Surgery at the Zagreb University Hospital Center. He organized subspecialization in vascular surgery to educate surgeons from different parts of Croatia in vascular surgery, thus spreading the profession nationwide.

From the very beginning of the war in Croatia, he was actively engaged in defending his country. He took the position of Head of Surgery of the Croatian Army, Medical Headquarters of the Ministry of Health. He organized and performed surgical treatment of the wounded, implementing so-called integrated medicine. Results of these activities

were continually published in Croatian as well as in Austrian and Italian publications. During the war, he published nine papers dealing with war medicine. In the middle of 1992, during the fierce war actions in the Split area, he was appointed Head of the University Department of Surgery, Split University Hospital.

Professor Luetić was the representative of Croatia at the World Association of War Surgeons, Ambroise Pare International Surgery Forum.

His main scientific interest was the study of atherosclerosis, with special emphasis on the practice and optimization of the operative techniques for so-called generalized vascular atherosclerosis, his major and long-standing scientific field of interest.

Professor Luetić was member of the Editorial Council of Acta clinica Croatica from 1995. The editors, members of the Editorial Board and Editorial Council, authors and

readers of *Acta clinica Croatica* are deeply grateful to Professor Vladimir Luetić for his valuable contribution as member of the Editorial Council. His suggestions and ideas to improve the quality of the journal were always precious

and highly useful. He took active part in shaping the journal. The Editors will try to continuously improve it, as Professor Luetić would do. This will be the best way to cherish the memory of Professor Luetić.

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