



In memoriam

## In Memoriam of Professor Claude Martin 1949–2019



Claude Martin was born in Boulogne-Billancourt, France, in 1949, and died at Nord Hospital, Marseille, France, on September 2, 2019. He received his medical training at Marseille School of Medicine where he graduated in 1979, before working as assistant/associate Professor in the Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care of South Hospital, Marseille. He was appointed Professor of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care in 1989, and chaired the Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care of Nord Hospital, Marseille, from 1992 to 2015. His life was dedicated to patient care, demanding the best for all patients admitted to our institution while making no concession about the services provided.

Claude Martin was a wonderful researcher. He was one of the first intensivists to underline the role of norepinephrine in septic shock, and understood early the need to increase organ perfusion pressure and avoid fluid overload; if this view is now shared by a large number of intensivists, a lot of energy has been necessary to convince his peers. He also worked on conditioning/humidification in mechanically ventilated-patients, antimicrobial stewardship in severe infection, surgical antimicrobial prophylaxis and sedation. His papers, more than 350 peer-reviewed, inspired generations of physicians managing critically ill patients.

Claude Martin was an enthusiastic teacher. His former trainees will keep in mind his formidable analytical capacity: every decision had to be based on sound reasoning and checked facts, every intervention had to be assessed, discussed and refined without delay. Meeting his requirements was never easy,

demanding a full commitment. The place of arbitrary, art medicine as others like to call it, was never fully excluded, left as a final touch.

Claude Martin served as president of the French Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (2006–2008). He was a member of several international societies including the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine and the European Society of Anaesthesiology, where he chaired sections and led projects. These last months, he was still willing to participate to new European projects. He received several awards, lectured internationally and organised tens of conferences and seminars gathering experts from all over the world.

Claude Martin was the man who dares, where others censor themselves. Facing a large audience, he showed an impressive charisma, fascinating most attendees. With singular conferences, one discovered a refined and warm spirit. Beyond an exemplary career, Claude Martin was a cultured man, known for his strong passion for comic strip and rock music. He was curious about everything, eager to travel and discover. Despite a life-threatening disease, he never lost his kindness, humanity, and sense of humour.

During his last hours, Claude Martin was accompanied by his wonderful family, including his wife Danielle, and his three children Nicolas, Corinne and Marie. We will always remember him as picture of elegance.

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