


Editorial

In Memoriam Friedrich Krause

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Prof. Dr. Friedrich Krause passed away peacefully on October 27, 2023 at his home in İstanbul at the age of 94 years.

Born on January 7, 1929, Professor Krause studied medicine in different universities Bamberg, Erlangen, Innsbruck and obtained his MD degree at the University Würzburg in 1956. Afterwards, he worked in USA, UK, Sweden, Switzerland and as Red Cross Doctor in Kongo. He became a Specialist in General Surgery in the University Tübingen, where he was appointed Associated Professor in 1970. From 1970 to 1975 he worked as a Consultant in the University Ulm, where he became a Professor. He is one of the first thoracic surgeons of Germany in times, when this branch was not classified as a specialization category. From 1975 to 1987 he worked as the Head of the Department of Thoracic Surgery in the Clinic Lowenstein, 1987-89 as a Co-Chief in the Oncology Clinic Bad Rappenau, 1989-91 as the Head of the General Surgery Clinic in Najran Saudi Arabia.

1991 he came to İstanbul, married Dr. Feyza Erkan, a Turkish academician. First he worked in Marmara and İstanbul Universities by contract as a guest professor. There he taught many assistants how to perform the mediastinoscopy and contributed to the widespread use of this technic in Turkey. After he had acquired Turkish citizenship, he began to work as a surgeon in private clinics, as a consultant doctor of German Consulate in İstanbul and as a Chief of a Low Dose Laser Clinic. His main research interests were staging and treatment of lung cancer, diagnostic value of mediastinoscopy and medical thoracoscopy and tumor immunology. He produced more than 100 publications relating to different aspects of thoracic surgery.

He was a great teacher and mentor always encouraging his young assistants to learn and practice the necessary skills, technics and supported generously their career. He taught with great pleasure and patience. His humility, kindness and gentle approach to others will be a lifelong source of inspiration to all people who knew him. He had also committed himself to his patients with compassion. He saw not only the illness, but the human as a whole. Besides their diseases he was fully engaged in all other problems of his patients and tried to help them with all means. He had so much love for all humanbeings without any prejudice and was feeling himself responsible to help others whatever he could do.

He enjoyed to live in Turkey and had visited nearly all parts of this country. He was interested in nature, history and archeology.

He was always open to new knowledge and new ideas, tried to follow all scientific developments. Although he had some physical handicaps of his old body in his last years, he tried with strength and courage to overcome all the restrictions, continued to learn, contact people and share his wisdom till the end.

He was a dedicated member of Turkish Thoracic Society, took part in all congresses as long as his health permitted.

He will be always remembered as an example of a good person, an academician and a teacher.