

## IN MEMORIAM

Carlos Grandval, M.D.



Carlos Grandval, M.D.  
1929 – 1997

Carlos Grandval, a master clinical surgeon of Argentina, has died. For many of us who have been fortunate to have worked closely with and known him well, it is difficult to accept this stark reality. Dr. Grandval overcame innumerable adversities and misfortunes during his lifetime but never did he lose his unbridled enthusiasm and exuberant vitality for medicine and lymphology. Even in his most distressful moments, he delivered masterful lectures on clinical surgery while enriching his audience with insightful ideas sprinkled with anecdotes and with a profound understanding of medical history, particularly as it related to lymphology. It would not, however, do full justice to refer to Carlos Grandval as only a surgeon or lymphologist. His erudition far exceeded medicine and clinical practice. Those of us who enjoyed the privilege of his friendship and attended medical conferences, engaged in hospital rounds, and entered into

scientific discussions with him can attest to his extraordinary engaging qualities and magnanimous humanism. Everyone knew the passion for general surgery and especially for surgical oncology that he displayed during his ten years as Chief of Surgery at the prestigious Hospital of Gastroenterology Bonorino Udaondo in Buenos Aires. He generously shared his profound insights with his colleagues and nurtured young practitioners and students who flocked to his clinic. His most enduring contribution was as the pioneer and architect of lymphology in Argentina. He worked tirelessly for many years to gain recognition of lymphology as a legitimate medical speciality. In conjunction with Professor Rubens C. Mayall of Rio de Janeiro, Carlos Grandval organized and shared the Presidency of the Vth International Congress of Lymphology co-hosted in Brazil and Argentina in 1975. Until 1995, when the ISL Congress was held again in Brazil (Recife/São Paulo), the meeting of 1975 was the only ISL Congress ever held in Latin America. Dr. Grandval was also Past President and founder of the Asociación Argentina de Linfología, the first society in Argentina devoted exclusively to the study of lymphology. He was the first Argentine elected to the Executive Committee of the International Society of Lymphology and was the first lymphologist from Argentina to present his original research at international meetings. Indeed, the highly respected position that Argentine lymphology holds today throughout the world is due largely to Carlos Grandval's organizing skills, passion,

persistence, and scientific contributions. It brought him in close contact with the most important lymphologists worldwide including the Drs. Casley-Smiths, Clodius, Engeset, the Földis, Gruwez, Mayall, Olszewski, Servelle, Viamonte, and the Wittes. It seems superfluous to detail his curriculum vitae as his exemplary professionalism and humanism far exceed any such dry recitation. Carlos Grandval now and hereafter is an unforgettable name. He remains a shining example as both a physician-scientist and a compassionate surgeon for those who follow in his footsteps in surgery and lymphology.

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## ERRATUM

Chikly, B: Who discovered the lymphatic system. *Lymphology* 30 (1997), 186-193.

In describing Rudbeck's discovery of the lymphatic system and that he (Rudbeck) had demonstrated his findings to Queen Christina of Sweden, it was mistakenly stated that at the demonstration was Thomas Bartholin, a student. It should have correctly read "Also likely present was a student of Thomas Bartholin." Bartholin himself was not present.