



Memento mori

Alexandre Mersel, a colleague, an outstanding professional, an excellent teacher, but most and foremost, a friend, has left us in late August this year. Alex's friends know about his difficult history at young age. Besides dentistry for the elderly, he was interested in music, art and literature at muse times.

Professor Alexandre Mersel, born in Strasbourg, France, graduated from the Faculty of Odontology, University of Lyon, France, and specialized in Prosthodontics at the Jerusalem Hadassah Faculty of Dental Medicine, in Israel.

Alexandre's unlimited passion for dentistry, especially for gerodontology, made him an outstanding practitioner and exceptional university teacher. He served in numerous functions in organized dentistry. Alex was a Councilor and Regional Director of the Continuing Education Program for Europe of the Fédération Dentaire Internationale (FDI), a member of the FDI Education Committee, a Board Member and Chairman of the Working Group Basic & Continuing Education of the European Regional Organization of the FDI, ERO. He was as a Board member of ERO, FDI Councilor and Member of the FDI Finances Committee, and as the FDI Liaison Councilor for the Education Committee.

His academic roles included Associate Professor at the Hadassah Faculty of Dental Medicine in Israel, Head of the Department of Removable Prosthodontics and Gerodontology at the Haifa Institute for Advanced Dental Studies, Director of the Jerusalem Geriatric Dental Center, Visiting Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Dentistry of the University of Marseilles and at the Dental Faculty of Paris V University, and Research Fellow at the Brookdale Institute of Gerodontology.

He founded and presided the European College of Gerodontology and co-founded the International Association of Gerodontology. He was the Chair of the FDI Section of Gerodontology and the FDI Special Committee on Gerodontology. Professor Mersel acted as Consultant to the Israeli Prime Minister's Commission of Public Health and as Director of the Dental Health Services Municipality of Jerusalem. He received The City of Paris Silver Medal. He authored more than 90 scientific articles and served as a member of the editorial board of several international journals.

Alex was a Member of the Academy of Dentistry International, ADI, and the Pierre Fauchard Academy, PFA. He served as an Editorial Board Member for the Journal of Global Oral Health and other international dental journals. His last opera is the book entitled "Oral Rehabilitation for Compromised and Elderly Patients" published with Springer International Publishing.

Professor Alex Mersel was an asset to the oral health profession and he will stay in our hearts.

Dr. Philippe Rusca
Dr. Gerhard K. Seeberger