In Memoriam. Dean Dr. Gaston Meyniel

At the time during the present month of the first anniversary of the death of Dean Gaston Meyniel, the Latin American Association of Nuclear Medicine pays homage to him.

Professor Dr. Gaston Meyniel was born November 1923 in Polminhac, Cantal, France and his pre-medical studies were carried on at the Medical Faculty at the University of Toulouse.

In 1943 he was admitted to the Faculty of the University of Bordeaux but he interrupted his studies to take part in partisan activities of the Maquis D'Auvergne during the summer of 1944. At the end of the Second World War he continued his studies at the University of Bordeaux and reported his first papers on Biological Radio Protection in 1953, working with the famous Professor Blanquet, he published extensively on thyroid metabolism.

In 1958 he received the title of Maitre de Conference and organized the Service of Radio-Isotopes at the University of Clermont Ferrand where he was elected Dean in 1965. In 1973 he organized the Center Anti-Cancereuse Jean Perrin which he managed brilliantly until 1991. After that he was elected President of the Association of Deans of University Faculties and among his many initiatives he supported actively the Medical Exchange of Nuclear Physicians with American Universities and for this reason I had the privilege of training 14 French nuclear physicians at our Nuclear Medicine Center at UCLA in USA.

For his intense academic and scientific activity, that was also enthusiastic and visionary, Dean Meyniel received important decorations from the French government: The War Cross TOE in 1992, Commander of Academic Palms, Commander of the Legion of Honor and Grand Officer of the Order of Merit.

Our contact with Dean Meyniel leaves us with an unforgettable memory of his brilliant spirit always concerned with his fellow man, that stayed young in spirit during his many years of life and that was always loyal in friendship.

Our sincere condolences to the Meyniel family and to the Faculty of Medicine of the University d'Auvergne.

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