

In Memoriam of Prof. Renato Fior

It is with much emotion and sadness that I would like to remember Professor Renato Fior, who passed away a few months ago in his beloved Trieste.

Renato was a good friend, and together we had many enjoyable and stimulating days at numerous conferences in Italy and around the world.

Without a shadow of doubt, he is considered as the father of paediatric ENT in the entire world, and its founder in Italy together with Gatti Manacini, Stelio Crifò, Virgilio Pinelli and Giulio Pestalozza.

It was Renato who organised the first paediatric ENT meeting in Sirmione in 1977 with the participation of scholars and clinicians from around the world. It was at Sirmione, in the magical atmosphere typical of a lake in the spring, that the foundations were placed for a paediatric ENT study group, which was the starting point for the present day ESPO (European Society of Paediatric Otorhinolaryngology) of which Renato was General Secretary for many years.

Careful scholar, thorough researcher, capable clinician and wise master, he directed the ORL division of “Burlo

Garofolo” Paediatric Institute in Trieste for many years since its foundation in 1968. Thanks to his excellent organisational skills and clinical skills, he brought the specialist department to a high level of efficiency, making it a reference centre for many parents of small, suffering children. Shy and reserved, but not introverted or unsociable, he dedicated his life to paediatric ENT, meeting Italian and foreign colleagues, and sharing scientific and cultural interests; he deeply loved his wife Sandra and his daughters, sharing their passion for music and visual arts.

The recognition and appreciation that he gave me when I was appointed the Paediatric ENT chair in L’Aquila and the affection that united us in recent years, when he was retired, will always remain in mind as were the carefree moments we shared in Venice together with our wives.



Desiderio Passali