

*IN MEMORIAM***ARMANDO KOMPRINZ CORDEIRO, M.D.**

1915-1997

On October 23, 1997, after a long illness, Dr. Armando Komprinz Cordeiro died in São Paulo, Brazil. Born in Rio de Janeiro in 1915, he graduated from medical school at the University of São Paulo in 1942. He subsequently became a leading surgeon in his native country and a renowned lymphologist while working in two major hospitals in São Paulo—Holy House of Mercy and the Cancer Hospital Arnaldo Vieira de Carvalho.

In 1983 he published the first and most complete treatise on the lymphatic circulatory system in Portuguese with F.F. Baracat in collaboration with J.R. Casley-Smith (Australia), C. Sanchez Fabela, and O. Tigerina de la Garsa (Mexico), and R.C. Mayall (Brazil). In this highly respected textbook, he extracted the most important developments in lymphology from around the world including the pioneering works of Godart, Gruwez, Collard, and Collette (Belgium), Martorelli (Spain), Dumont, Wallace,

Threefoot, Viamonte, M. and C. Witte, Yamauchi (USA), Servelle (France), Kinmonth (England), Baltazzati, Bazan, Cariati, Domini (Italy), Nishimaru and Ohkuma (Japan), and Clodius and Rüttimann (Switzerland). He visited each of these clinics, sometimes twice, to realize his dream—273 pages of the best Brazilian book on lymphology printed with high quality illustrations in both color and black and white. It included his seminal work on lymphatic-venous anastomosis, first published in 1969, that along with his countryman Mario Degni brought him renown as an invited speaker and a leader as a surgical lymphologist around the world.

With his passing, Brazilian lymphology and microsurgery has sustained an irreplaceable loss and a great void. Our fondest hope is that his original and imaginative skill in adapting microsurgery to the lymphatic system stimulates young lymphologists to carry on his work and bring his bold ideas to fruition to help patients everywhere who suffer from the disabling consequences of lymphedema.

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