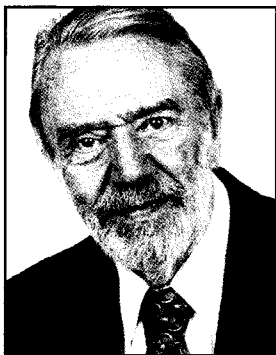


## PASSING OF PIONEERS

### PROF. DR. MED. STEFAN KUBIK (1923-2003)



Professor Stefan Kubik passed away on December 25, 2003, aged 81, after 53 years of a highly successful and admirable scientific career.

His death is felt deeply by all who knew him, and who mourn him as a creative spirit, anatomist of Lymphology and gifted artist. His life's work was both the foundation and pillar for many clinical doctors and physiotherapists. He leaves a void in our science, which will be hard to fill with our own and coming generations.

Professor Kubik was born on April 3, 1923, in Budapest. He studied medicine and achieved his doctorate in 1948. It was during his days as a student that his interest for anatomy was kindled, and his research work began. He lectured as a young doctor. He remained a passionate researcher and was held in awe and respect by all generations over the long decades. His scientific career encompasses two main phases of activity:

Professor Kubik worked on the following topics from 1978 until 1986 in Hungary:

- The mechanical factors of lymph transport
- The localization of lung segments in the regional lymph nodes
- The innervation of lymph vessels
- The lymph vascular system of the uterus

After the defeat of the fight for liberation in Hungary, Professor Kubik emigrated to Austria in 1956, and from there on to Switzerland. He worked as a professor at the University of Zurich from 1957 until his retirement.

His second phase of activity began in Zurich. The emphasis of his research during this period was on the ontogenesis of the lymph system, the representation of the peripheral lymph vessels, in particular the lymph drainage of the skin and subcutaneous connective tissue. The exact anatomical description of the lymph territories and the lymphatic water sheds is a great resource for oncological surgeons during operations and surgery today.

Professor Kubik was not only a descriptive anatomist for the various drainage pathways, he also embodied the discipline of functional anatomy. His notes regarding the drainage pathways of lymph from a congested territory by overriding the water sheds is the basis of Complex Physical Decongestive therapy.

Professor Kubik was advisor, president and honorary president of numerous medical-scientific societies, and received many honors and prizes. He lectured at home and abroad and was the author of a great number of publications and books. His lifelong

commitment was to the instruction of medical students, which he saw as his greatest priority: he was held in great respect and honor by many generations of students who loved him for his humor, his highly interesting scientific explanations, which he explained using wonderful drawings, a gift he freely possessed and exercised.

His free time was spent with his passion for art: he painted and created statues. He leaves a macroscopic collection of anatomical preparations, numerous paintings and statues.

Lymphologists, friends and colleagues have lost a great, warm-hearted scientist. We will always keep his memory in a spirit of remembrance and thanks.

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