

in memoriam

PROFESSOR IULIAN MINCU 1927-2015

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It is very sad for me to write that Professor Iulian Mincu, former Health Minister, founder of modern Diabetology and of the Diabetes Nutrition and Metabolic Diseases specialty, left us on Friday evening (30th of July 2015) at 18.30.

During his extremely complex career, Professor Mincu was involved in countless activities aimed to increase the survival and the quality of life of patients with diabetes.

Professor Iulian Mincu formed and inspired generations of diabetologists, including today's leaders of our specialty, who are his disciples. He was surrounded with warmth by colleagues, friends, collaborators, disciples until the last days of his life.

I had the privilege to work in the Clinic of diabetes that he run. There I learned the meaning of responsibility, professionalism, rigor, respect towards patients and their families. It is the place where I learned that diabetes does not define only a disease, but a whole system. Iulian Mincu always managed to allot time for all kind of responsibilities, being Health Minister, Member of Parliament, University Professor, etc

The interest and passion for diabetes characterized his whole life. His passing will be deeply felt by his friends around the world as well as by his professional descendants. Diabetes mellitus lost a great "champion", and we thank him for everything he had done for people with diabetes throughout his remarkable life.

Professor Mincu was indeed a wonderful man! He was strong, brave, he took many decisions and implemented projects, accepting transient administrative positions in order to achieve his objectives. He permanently guided and followed the steps of his descendants, opening opportunities for them,

supporting and stimulating them. As Professor, Director of “Prof. N.C. Paulescu” Institute and Health Minister he created a school of diabetes and a diabetes national network.

I am writing these lines as his disciple and former President of the Romanian Society of Diabetes Nutrition and Metabolic Diseases, with a good knowledge of the history and value of this specialty.