

*Prof. GIOVANNI E. ORLANDINI passed away in Florence on March 5th, 2022*

He was born in Florence in 1934, graduated in Medicine and Surgery at the University of Florence in July 1958 and specialised in Cardiovascular and Rheumatic Diseases at the same University in 1962 with top marks and honours.

In 1969 he moved to the University of Sassari, where he became Director of the Anatomical Institute and Full Professor of Anatomy till 1972, when he was asked by the University of Parma as Full Professor (1973) of Histology and General Embryology as well as Director of the Institute of the same name.

In 1974 he returned to the University of Florence as Full Professor of Normal Human Anatomy, where he performed several institutional roles.

From 1986 to 2001 and then again in 2007 until his retirement, he was elected Dean of the Medical Faculty. In 2004 he became Director of the Department of Anatomy, Histology and Forensic Medicine. In 2009 he was appointed Emeritus by the Italian Ministry of University and Research.

He was a member of several scientific societies: Association des Anatomistes, American Association of Anatomists, Anatomische Gesellschaft. In the latter association, he was elected President (1990-93) and then an honorary member. In the Italian Society of Anatomy since 1993, he was a member of the Board of Directors, and since 2005, he has been elected President for two triennia. In the same Society, he received in 2016 an award for his career. From 1997 to 2004, he was the Italian Board of Anatomists' President.

Giovanni Orlandini participated in many national and international congresses and organised and chaired several symposia, including the European Anatomical Congress in Florence (1995).

For more than 20 years, he was on the directory board of the College of Physicians in Florence. He also showed a noticeable civic engagement, elected to the Florence City Council (1999-2004) and vice-president of the public health Committee.

He was the Author of more than 250 publications and co-author of several textbooks in the field of Anatomy with wide national diffusion.

His scientific interests were mainly focused on the cardiovascular system and the male genital tract. His



studies on arterial size have been a clear landmark for many researchers. In 1964 Prof. Orlandini started his more than 40-year period of collaboration with Prof. Holstein, Anatomist in Hamburg, on the structure, function and changes of different tracts of the male genital organs, always using innovative methods and paying great attention to the functional implications of morphology.

An expert Dissector and enthusiast of the History of Medicine and Anatomy, he published studies on Tuscan anatomists and the controversial figure of Girolamo Segato, whose national and international fame he significantly contributed to enhance. For many years, he curated and increased the collection of the Anatomy Museum of the University of Florence.

Very clear and passionate Anatomy Lecturer, Prof. Orlandini was Maestro in training, profession and life. I had the honour of assisting him in the drafting of the re-edition of Chiarugi's treatise on splanchnology and to have my signature on his latest publication, "*The anatomical representation of the human body: from epistemological examples deriving from medical history to morphometric imaging performed with the laser scanner technique*".

At the end of a whole and serene life, surrounded by his closest affections, he left us in 2022 on March 5th.

His scientific, cultural, didactic and high-flying legacy to the Italian University and the International Anatomical and Histological Society is immeasurable; the Professor is still an unsurpassed and shining reference for all his Colleagues and Students.

Prof. Ferdinando Paternostro