

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. José Domingo Gamboa Marrufo (1945-2013)

José Domingo Gamboa Marrufo was born on October 17, 1945 in Mexico City. He died on August 14, 2013 in the same city. He studied at the Faculty of Medicine of the UNAM and graduated as a medical surgeon. He continued with his graduate studies in pediatrics at the Hospital Infantil de México Federico Gómez (HIMFG) where he also studied orthopedics.

At the HIMFG, Dr. Gamboa developed a brilliant career, both academically as well as administratively. In 1976, he began his work in the Department of Internal Medicine. Shortly afterwards he served as Chief of Pediatric Internal Medicine Service until 1996. Subsequently, he held various management positions in the Education Department, and became Chief in the area. He was also Deputy Director of medical assistance.

The responsibilities held by Dr. José Gamboa during his charge of the service of internal medicine allowed him to develop as a pediatrician integrally in its entirety. He was characterized by being one of the most loved and respected physicians in the field by generations of medical residents who benefitted from his teachings and example over those two decades.

For this reason, he was appointed as a sponsor of several generations of pediatricians. It was also in this service where Dr. Gamboa developed most of the studies in clinical research, which projected his image of clinical investigator both in Mexico and internationally. His academic and research activity was reflected in the publication of



108 articles, two books, and 46 book chapters, the latter by publishers in Mexico, Spain and Venezuela.

From the beginning, he served as an adjunct professor at the institution and later as a Professor of Pediatrics at the Faculty of Medicine at UNAM. He also developed teaching activities in other health educational institutions such as the Universidad La Salle and Anahuac University.

José Gamboa participated in different societies, councils and academies where he occupied directorship positions. He was a member of the Medical Association of the HIM where he worked as treasurer, vice-president and president, member of the Mexican Association of Pediatrics where he was vice president and president during the period from 1992–1994, full member of the Mexican Academy of Pediatrics and vice president during the period from 1988–1991. In addition, he was a member and treasurer of the Latin American Association of Pediatrics (ALAPE). He was also a distinguished vice president and president of the Mexican Council of Certification in Pediatrics during the period from 1999–2000. He was also an honorary member of various pediatric academies in Latin American and was a distinguished guest in many cities.

Dr. Gamboa received several awards for his hospital academic performance. Three of these are notable: the merit award: “Teacher of National Pediatrics” awarded by the Mexican Association of Pediatrics in 1994. In the same year he received the Federico Gomez award by the

Association of Physicians of the Hospital Infantil as recognition of his outstanding work in the institution. Finally, although in reality it was not an award but the result of an impeccable academic and personal record, Dr. Gamboa reached the category of incumbent member of the National Academy of Medicine of Mexico in 2006.

After >40 years of having enjoyed his friendship and closeness, Dr. José Domingo Gamboa Marrufo left his colleagues and acquaintances as well as his daughters and other family members, an obvious and difficult to fill vacuum. However, in honor of his memory we must guard his

example: full dedication to his institutional responsibilities, his open spirit, the special sense of humor that characterized him, and conversations which, even if brief and in the offices of the hospital, always renewed the feeling of a deep friendship.

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