

A living memory of Professor Carlo Enrico Grossi



One year has already gone since the day when Carlo left us, but still, anyone here, relatives, friends and colleagues complain his untimely death. I don't mean to describe his academic career as well as to emphasize his scientific intuitions, this is not my task and moreover it would be not familiar with his versatile personality, but rather, how is depicted in the title of my short speech, I want to present to the audience a "living memory of Carlo", as a sincere witness of the affection binding to each other. In fact, I can say that I remember him any day of my life, I remember his juvenile exuberance, I remember his enthusiasm for sport, especially tennis, I remember his generous affection towards friends, I remember his devotion to scientific research, I remember his passion for teaching, I remember his pride of belonging to the academic community and to the scientific society, I have the honour to represent.

On the other hand, more than forty years of friendship and of common academic path cannot be easily forgotten. Beside the colleagues and pupils of the anatomical Institute of Genua, Carlo had also close friends in the Italian anatomical field. I think to myself, obviously, and to Antonio Manzoli and Sandro Riva, who, rushing from Cagliari, could greet him for the last time.

For his sharp intelligence, his charming look, his brilliant speech, his bright scientific view, Carlo was always a step beyond, this is testified by the fact that, in any activity he has performed, he always attained the highest levels. Therefore, he was appreciated everywhere: in research laboratories as well as in lecture halls, in scientific as well as social events, in academic as well as didactic meetings.

His scientific passion was devoted to two different fields: immunohematology and human anatomy that he was able to combine in a perfect symbiosis, so that in no case one could exclude the other. Although having attained, in immunohematology, positions of national and international relevance, he never moved away from his first interest, human anatomy, which he carried on in a modern key, on the basis of a solid cultural background typical of the Genua School.

As example of his activity, let me underline his collaboration to the book "Atlas of blood cells, function, and pathology", reaching its third edition and translated