

Dan Olteanu (1940-2020)



In October 2020, with saddened hearts, we heard about the passing of Prof. Dan Olteanu, Chief of Internal Medicine Department at the University Hospital Bucharest, Romania.

He displayed always a shining spirit.

He graduated from the Faculty of General Medicine of the University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Bucharest in 1962. He started his teaching career in 1965 and gradually developed his academic career, becoming a Professor in 1993. He was deeply involved in all aspects of professional and teaching activity in the University Hospital Bucharest.

As a physician, he exhibited the outmost professionalism, a spirit of fairness and devotion, things that he was able to imprint on the rest of us. We recognize him as a founder of the modern school of Internal Medicine, a medical field in which Prof. Dan Olteanu excelled, as an author of numerous studies, articles, chapters and books.

He was one of the founders of the Gastroenterology Clinic of the University Hospital Bucharest. He was an impressive manager who assembled a wonderful team, which he coordinated for many years.

He had an amazing contribution as mentor for countless generations of medical students and internal medicine residents. Responsible and altruistic, he taught us to not only rely on our knowledge and skills, but to show empathy, understanding, optimism and faith. He showed us that we can employ any means necessary to help patients recover and we learned to care for them with patience and hope. His students and internal medicine residents remember him fondly being grateful for his invaluable contributions, especially with regard to his incredible medical knowledge and teaching abilities.

The gastroenterology community mourns the loss of a beloved colleague, mentor, clinical scientist, and friend. His legacy will be an inspiration for generations to come.

Words cannot express our feelings of gratitude; this is the reason why we rely on his accomplishments to speak for themselves.

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