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Obituary

José Miguel Lera Tricas



José Miguel, our dear colleague, passed away while in London, spending time with his grandchildren. It is very difficult to put into words the pain that overwhelms us. He left before his time, when we had so many projects to enjoy after so many years of work. An excellent surgeon, José Miguel trained at the Clínica Universitaria, worked at the Hospital de Estella and, one unforgettable day in 1991, he was appointed Chief of Surgery at the Hospital de Navarra, which was determined by merit. The extraordinary development of the hospital's surgery service over the years and the completed training of so many surgeons were all thanks to him. He promoted and participated in as many scientific and educational activities as he could. He brought the Annual Meeting of the Spanish Association of Surgeons to Pamplona, was vice-

president of the Association, and later general secretary of the Medical Union of Navarra. Always straightforward and without fanfare, he never gave in to anyone, and his Aragonese soul always called a spade a spade.

I met José Miguel 30 years ago, and since then his presence, sometimes physical, but always spiritual, accompanied me in all my activities. An extremely intelligent person, enthusiastic reader, lover of art and music, it was always a pleasure to converse with him. I enjoyed great moments by his side, and not only scientific ones: travels all over the world, ski trips, days out in the country and fishing, trips around Spain to explore Romanesque architecture, travelling along the Camino de Santiago, etc. A gourmet and a great cook, he was always ready to invite you to his house. He has left us indelible memories and a void that will be impossible to fill. A friend, always an unwavering friend.

Apart from his professional activity, he was an extraordinary husband and father. I have infinite affection for Carmen, their children Beatriz, Miguel and Ignacio, and all of his magnificent family, with whom we have shared so many unforgettable moments.

You will always be with us, José Miguel.

Rest in peace.

Fernando Pardo Sánchez

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