OBITUARY

Vito Petretta 1944-2008

Vito Petretta died on 27th November 2008 at the age of 64 after a trivial accident. He had worked in my laboratory from the time when he was a young medical student and up until the last day of his life. He was a very good physician, particularly dedicated to Cardiology and Echocardiography, but his interest, also focused on the History of Medicine. He found issues of the old Journal of Ospedali Incurabili of Naples, where Gaetano Conte published papers describing the first cases of muscle dystrophy.

Thanks to his dedication, we received a great deal of information regarding the clinical and scientific studies performed in Neapolitan hospitals in the first part of the early 19th century. But we shall also remember him for his outstanding contribution to the knowledge of echocardiography and for the work performed in my team, in the organization of many congresses on muscle diseases, and for the foundation of the Mediterranean Society of Myology and the Gaetano Conte Academy, of which he was Vice-President.

All those who had the good fortune to meet him, will never, forget his kindness and willingness to help people in need. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Giovanni Nigro