

## Farewell Ignac



**Prof Ignac Fogelman (04.09.1948 – 05.07.2016)**

***Our very dear friend, teacher, mentor and colleague, Prof Ignac Fogelman, passed away on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2016***

### ***“Father of Radionuclide Bone Imaging”***

Professor Ignac Fogelman, fondly known to all as just as Ignac or “Prof”, was Professor of Nuclear Medicine at King’s College London and Honorary Consultant Physician at Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS Trust and Director of the Osteoporosis Screening and Research Unit, Guy’s Hospital. In 1988 he was instrumental in starting the first osteoporosis screening service in the UK, initially using a DPA scanner and later one of the first DXA systems and also pioneered the use of positron emission tomography (PET) in the study of osteoporosis and regional bone turnover.

Professor Fogelman underwent his medical training in the Professorial Department of Medicine at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary where he developed his interest in metabolic bone disease working with Dr Iain Boyle and Dr Rodney Bessent. At that time Nuclear Medicine in Glasgow came under the wing of the Department of Medicine, and the newly available <sup>99m</sup>Tc-diphosphonate imaging agents proved a useful means of investigating metabolic bone disease, leading to the first of over 400 publications and the completion of his MD. His appointment as Consultant Physician in the Nuclear Medicine Department at Guy’s Hospital in 1983 gave further opportunities to develop his interests in bone. He has written or edited 15 books, all of which have become standard texts in the field. His most successful book is the Atlas of Clinical Nuclear Medicine (published now in its 3rd edition), which can be found and is used as a bible in most nuclear medicine departments world-wide, and this also made him a celebrity in the world of nuclear medicine. We remember the

smile and joy he had while he was reading the review about his book on Radionuclide and Hybrid Bone Imaging in EJNMMI. He said this was the best review he had received and he was very happy with the book and about the fact that the reviewers called it a “**masterpiece**”.

In 1996 he became Professor of Nuclear Medicine. He has supervised at least 17 PhD/MD students. He was a former board member and trustee of the National Osteoporosis Society and was previously chairman of its Bone Densitometry Forum. Professor Fogelman was chairman of the board of examiners for the MSc in Nuclear Medicine at King’s College, London. In a successful professional life that included innumerable awards and appreciation, a few deserve special mention. The Society of Nuclear Medicine of India, awarded the prestigious Vikram Sarabhai Oration Award in 2005, in 2014 he was awarded the prestigious Sir Godfrey Hounsfield Memorial Award from the BIR and in 2015 he was invited to present the Dent Lecture for 2015 by the Bone Research Society (BRS) for his outstanding contribution to musculoskeletal research. He retired from the NHS in September 2015.

His favorite recreations included bridge, theatre, opera, food, wine, music, books, travel (always with style and elegance). He had an extraordinary capacity for loyal friendships around the world, communicating with people on a weekly basis by email. Ignac's passing has left a void in the life of numerous people, with his family being flooded by commiserations from all quarters. His wise counsel and enthusiasm will be missed by many.

Ignac’s lifelong ideals were hard work, passion and dedication striving for the highest order of perfection. He looked at every bone scan with awe, enthusiasm, utmost sincerity and never diminishing curiosity. He was truly the father of radionuclide bone imaging. One of our colleagues in the EANM Bone Committee remembers him as the “**Pope of Radionuclide Bone Imaging**” and we believe this is a fitting tribute to a hero. He was always inspiring to many as a teacher, mentor, friend and colleague.

Ignac is survived by his wife Coral, daughter Gayle, son Richard and grandchildren whom he adored. Our deepest condolences and prayers go out to them.

**Gopinath Gnanasegaran**  
**Gary Cook**  
**Hans Van der Wall**

## **SOME MESSAGES FROM HIS FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES**

*I am greatly saddened by this news. Ignac had those qualities that so many of us strive for and so few achieve. He combined great scholarship, a solid work effort and a sophistication in life to live as a true "renaissance man". Unfortunately, we are losing people with these qualities at a greater rate than we are producing them. He will be sorely missed.*

**Prof Don Blaufox**

*Ignac was a dear friend for the past 25-30 years. Besides his enormous contributions to Nuclear Medicine, I fondly remember our family vacations together. He was truly a remarkable human being who will be sorely missed. My heartfelt condolences to Coral, Gayle and Richard and their families.*

**Prof Leonard Freeman**

*This morning a very special period that lasted over 30 years has come to a brutal end! As much as I have tried to prepare – it does not help! I know that each of us and many more have their own memories of Professor Fogelman. For me Ignac was one of my most appreciated and cherished mentors and colleagues and above all a very dear true friend! He was a pillar of Nuclear Medicine, a passionate advocate for Israel and a committed friend of our department at Rambam!*

**Prof Ora Israel**

*At the end of the day I am proud that we have known him and that we could work with him .... He always inspired us with great discussions and highly innovative ideas and instructions.... Our deepest condolences go to his wonderful family and most of all to his wife Coral*

**Prof Werner Langsteger & Mohsen Beheshti**

*In Hebrew we say: Baruch dayan emet "blessed is the true judge"  
I am very sad. An incredible loss for all*

**Prof Helen Nadel**

*I am very sad to hear this. I emailed Ignac a couple of weeks ago and reminisced about some of the nice things that we did together when he visited Sydney. He said that he appreciated being reminded of those good time*

**Prof Monica Rossleigh**