Professor Zbigniew Wójtowicz was born on 8 September 1941 in Lublin. In 1958 he passed the maturity examination and enrolled at the Faculty of Medicine of the Medical University of Lublin. He obtained a degree in medicine on 13 March 1964. In 1960, still as a student, he began his work at the Medical University of Lublin, first as a volunteer, then from 1963 as a member of the technical staff. In 1965 he was employed as a university assistant in the Department of Human Anatomy. He led classes, consultations, seminars, and lectures on human anatomy both at the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry Division and at the Faculty of Nursing of the Medical University of Lublin. In 1990 he achieved habilitation after presenting a paper entitled “Histological, ultrastructural, and biochemical analysis of the basilar artery wall in rabbits”. In 1994 he became an associate professor and a year later was made head of the Department of Human Anatomy. From 1996 to 1999 he was Vice Dean of the Faculty of Medicine. The President of the Republic of Poland, Aleksander Kwaśniewski, awarded him with the scientific title of Medical Professor of the Year 2000. In 2003 he was promoted to professor ordinarius.

Professor Zbigniew Wójtowicz was a member of the Senate Youth Board and several rectorial boards. He was an active member of the Faculty and University Board of Elections and University Board of Enrolment. He was a member of many scientific associations and social organizations. From 1992 to 1996 he was the president of the Lublin Branch of the Polish Anatomical Society; he was also a member of the Main Board of this society. He published several dozen research papers in English and French and presented several dozen abstracts at national and international congresses.

Professor Zbigniew Wójtowicz was a conscientious academic teacher; his colleagues described him as disciplined, gifted, and friendly. He was repeatedly rewarded for his scientific, didactic, and educational achievements. In recognition of his contributions he was awarded the Gold and Silver Cross of Merit, the Honorary Badge for Exemplary Work in Health Service, and other medals and decorations. We bid farewell to an eminent expert in the field of human anatomy, a specialist in pulmonology, respected scientist, author of many research papers, excellent organizer of scientific research and didactics, and a tutor of many generations of medical staff.

In honour of his memory.

R. Maciejewski and co-workers* of the Human Anatomy Department