

FROM THE EDITOR IN CHIEF/EDITORIAL BOARD

Dear Friends, Colleagues, Readers

It is my sorrowful duty to inform you that Professor Stanisław Tomaszunas died on October 2nd 2011 at his home in Sopot, Poland. We gathered on October 6th 2011 to say goodbye to him, to Stanisław, whose friends called him simply Stan. I rejoice in the fact that Stan considered me to be one of them. We said goodbye to his body, but we will keep his memory alive.

A remarkable man, a person of numerous qualities, virtues, and achievements, A list of which would be way too long to quote, but it would undoubtedly make us realize how much the country, the international community, the Institute itself, and maritime and tropical medicine owe to Stanisław. Active until his last days, despite the serious illness that he was heroically fighting, he could surely qualify his life as successful.

He was best known as a medical doctor, scientist, and practitioner, the Institute's vice director, a member of the supervisory boards and boards of many associations, co-founder of the IMHA and PTMMiT, long-time editor of IMH, and its Honorary Editor. In each of these roles he was fully himself, proving his competency, creativity, reliability, and patient perseverance.

His personality, fidelity to principles, and sincere honesty protected him from false steps and from betraying the truth. Whenever he observed such a mistake, he had the courage to criticize openly or to refuse, as he never could comprehend such attitudes. We valued his firmness, and considered him as a model of an independent mind in the scientific area and also as a model of an active civic attitude.

Distant to the honours, engagingly modest – which was often mistaken for coldness – he had a lot of serenity and could overcome obstacles with a smile. I experienced this especially after becoming the editor of our magazine, when I saw him advising with tact and wisdom the profile of our periodical.

Cooperating with him was a real pleasure. It is hard for us to imagine his loss and his passing away. I would like to express my deep hope that in some way he is still here with us. I kindly ask Stanisław's wife, daughters, relatives, and closest friends to accept our heartfelt sympathy. He was and continues to be our master. I really hope you all share this opinion.

I attach his *curriculum vitae*, which might serve as a model of a decent life.

Bogdan Jaremin
Editor in chief

**It is with deep sorrow that we learned the passing away of Professor Stanisław Tomaszunas the great scientist and medicine doctor. We convey our sympathy and condolence to all His relatives and friends.
The Board and Employees of Via Medica Publishing House**