

Obituaries

Professor Lennart Juhlin 1926–2005



Photo: Anders Hallén

(This obituary was originally published in *Acta Dermato-Venereologica* 2005; 85: 481.)

Professor Lennart Juhlin, Honorary and Section Editor of this journal, sadly died from myocardial infarction on October 17, 2005, whilst going home from his office at Uppsala University Hospital. He died as he had always lived, constantly active and preoccupied with both medical and scientific issues. Lennart Juhlin was the Editor-in-Chief of this journal between 1988 and 1999. His international reputation as distinguished researcher and his long-lasting personal relations with many of the leading dermatologists around the world helped to promote the journal's development. Later on he also founded a new journal, *Forum for Nordic Dermato-Venereology*.

Lennart Juhlin's scientific career spans more than five decades, be-

ginning with his doctoral thesis in pharmacology at Uppsala University in 1956, followed by training in dermatology and venereology at Uppsala University Hospital (Head: Professor Nils Thyresson). In 1969 he took over as Professor and Head of the same department, acting until 1992, when he was succeeded by his close collaborator Professor Gerd Michaëlsson. During his long career, Lennart Juhlin was repeatedly invited to be Visiting Researcher and Visiting Professor at various institutions. He worked with Professor Sam Shuster in Newcastle-upon-Tyne (in 1963 and 1968), with Professor Walter B. Shelley in Philadelphia (1960–1961, 1964–1965 and 1975–1976), with Professor Jean-Paul Ortonne in Nice (1983–1984) and with Professor Peter van de Kerkhof in Nijmegen (1993). In 1981–1983 he was Director of the Department of Pharmacology, Centre International de Recherches Dermatologiques (CIRD), Valbonne.

His scientific output comprises over 300 medical publications and book chapters spanning from skin pharmacology to the pathogenesis of urticaria and vitiligo therapy. Apart from his own scientific activity he was also a tutor of several PhD students and a keen supporter of numerous postgraduates.

Lennart Juhlin was President of the Swedish Dermatology Society in 1972–1975, and for many years also Secretary General of the Scandinavian Dermatological Association. He served as honorary and board member of many international societies and was for a period a consultant to the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva. He was one of the founding members of the European Dermatology Foundation (EDF), now embracing all professors of dermatology and venereology in Europe.

On a personal level, Lennart Juhlin was not just a gentleman *par excellence* but also an extremely gentle person who always cared for his fellow-beings; he treated patients, students, staff and peers in the same friendly, comforting and always op-

timistic way. All of us who had the privilege of knowing Lennart will never forget his charming personality, his warm friendship and great generosity. The memory of him will remain forever! Our thoughts are with his dear wife Ingrid and his two

children, Claes and Ann, and their families.

Uppsala October 22, 2005

Anders Vahlquist
Editor-in-Chief

Condolences received in response to a widely distributed message from Acta Dermato-Venereologica's Editorial Office about Lennart Juhlin's sad death on October 17, 2005. The quotations, appearing in the order they were received, have been approved by all involved persons. We thank them all for their warm and thoughtful words about Lennart.

Uppsala 7th November, 2005

Agneta Andersson and Anders Vahlquist

Aarne Oikarinen:

I am deeply sorry to hear that Professor Lennart Juhlin has died. I shall always remember him as broadminded dermatologist and scientist, who always had time to discuss with his younger colleagues, and give some advice and encouragement. The dermatology in general has lost one of its giants, and here in Finland we have lost a warm friend.

Beate Henz:

Thank you for notifying me about Lennart's untimely death. He has a special place in my heart since I remember him from my earliest days in dermatology training in the US as a most respectable, honest, devoted scientist and a warm-hearted human being. Please pass my condolences on to his wife and the family.

Jaakko Karvonen:

Sad to hear. Thank you for informing. Lennart was a close and good friend for decades.

Peter van de Kerkhof:

I am really sad by this news. Our thoughts are with him. Thank you for informing me.

Hugh Zachariae:

Working together with Lennart was a great privilege as was his friendship. It shall be remembered and treasured. He was the true gentleman in dermatology. His importance for Nordic dermatology will remain for many years. My thoughts will go to Ingrid and the family.

Wolfram Sterry:

Thank you for sending this sad news. We all will keep Lennart Juhlin in

our hearts, and since Lennart was a founding member of the EDF, we will reserve some time to remember him during the next meeting.

Jean-Paul Ortonne:

This is a very sad news. Lennart was visiting professor in Nice and at this occasion I had the opportunity to appreciate his creativity, his energy and his kindness. He was and will remain a Master of Dermatology.

Braham Shroot:

I was so sad to hear this. Lennart was a true friend to many people. I have some wonderful memories of working with him. Please convey my sincerest condolences to Ingrid.

Peter S Friedmann:

Thank you very much for passing on this sad news. Lennart was indeed

a lovely man. I first met him when I was very new in dermatology research and he was always warm and interested even though he was one of the great and senior figures in the subject and I was a junior. With sad greetings.

Jørgen Serup:

This is sad news. Lennart was both professionally and as a person and colleague outstanding

David Norris:

It is with great sadness that I learned today of the death of Lennart Juhlin. Lennart was a wonderful colleague and typical of the kind, intelligent and dedicated senior professors who so enrich academic dermatology and make it so easy to attract the best young people to continue the high standard of academic dermatology.

Leena Bruckner-Tuderman:

Thank you for the sad news. Lennart was a real Scandinavian star, modest and kind, but with a huge international impact. We will all miss him.

Jonathan Barker:

This is very sad news about Lennart. I write on behalf of all at ST John's Institute of Dermatology to express our deep sympathy to his family, friends and colleagues. We will remember him in Interlaken. With deepest sympathy.

Gerd Plewig:

It is with great sadness to hear that our colleague and friend Professor Lennart Juhlin died very recently. I

personally remember Lennart as a very warm person, friend and distinctive colleague. He was a great person of your country and of your Uppsala University. Please confer my condolence to his wife Ingrid and the two children Claes and Ann.

Howard Maibach:

We share your great loss.

Jean Saurat:

I am so sorry! I liked and respected Lennart very much.

Robert Baran:

I cannot believe the partner I had in Lennart for my different publications has left us. I feel a deep sadness and hope that his end was not physically painful.

Walter B. Shelley:

Thank you so much for writing us about Lennart. Dorinda and I deeply mourn our loss. Lennart brought so much to the specialty of Dermatology. He was a superb clinician and researcher who dedicated his brilliant mind to skin diseases and their significance to public health. I was most fortunate in being able to work with him. It was inspiring to hear his imaginative ideas in problem solving. And as you know he was the quintessential gentleman. His heritage will long live, much of it enshrined within the volumes of the Acta. All of us treasure his memory and our love for Ingrid, Claes, Ann, and their precious families. The Swedish Flags he gave us stand mute and at half mast. With tears of sadness I remain.

Malcolm Greaves:

I first met Lennart when I was a specialist registrar at Newcastle - we were both interested in basophils and he had worked with Shelley. From this beginning I developed a firm friendship with him and a deep respect. Lennart and I worked together for many years as consultants to CIRD in Nice and subsequently on the EDF Board. I and my wife will greatly miss having him around in the global dermatology scene to which he contributed so much.

Louis Dubertret:

We have lost a leader of the World dermatology, a close and very creative friend and a gentleman. My warmest regards to his family.

Stephania Jablonska:

With a great sadness I learned about the unexpected death of Lennart Juhlin.

I would like to transmit my sincere heartfelt condolences since Lennart Juhlin was a creative researcher, had his own ideas, sometimes differing from the generally accepted standards and this was most appealing to me. He was also an exceptionally modest, nice person who contributed much to the experimental dermatology and was the best representative of his country.

Kristian Thestrup-Pedersen

A giant in Nordic Dermatology has left us. But not his impact on dermatology and his interest and optimism for patients and science.