Hans Rorsman 1930-2014



Professor Hans Rorsman, Lund University, sadly passed away on the 26th of July, 2014 at the age of 84 after some years of illness. He was for many years one of the leading Dermato-Venereologists in Scandinavia and internationally well renowned both as a scientist and as a board member of the International League of Dermatologic Societies (ILDS). He was an honorary member of many international societies, and a founding members and past president of the European Society for Dermatologic Research (ESDR). He received his MD and PhD at Lund University and was appointed Professor of Dermatology and Venereology first at Gothenburg University and soon thereafter at Lund University, where he also became head of the dermatologic department. His initial research interest was basophil biology in relation to allergy. He subsequently took up his groundbreaking studies on melanocyte biology, melanogenesis and melanoma and soon became one of the fathers of the Pigment Research Society. Hans Rorsman's bright mind, sound judgements, high personal integrity and enormous working capacity made him a highly respected colleague not only within the field of dermatology. For many years he was Chief Physician at Lund University hospital and treasurer of ILDS. He was also the Chairman of the Society for Publication of Acta Dermato-Venereologica, and as such

took active part in many of the decisions that have made the journal what it is today.

Hans Rorsman was a great teacher. He made a monumental contribution to undergraduate education in dermato-venereology, most importantly by writing the first modern Swedish textbook in the field back in 1972 (later translated to several other languages). This book, which has expanded over the years, is from its 8th edition called Rorsmans Dermatologi Venereologi (Rorsman's textbook on Dermatology and Venereology), to honour his pivotal role in establishing this book, which is used by most MD students and by virtually all GPs in Sweden.

In all his doings, he was a firm gentleman but also a dear and trusted friend. We are all indebted to him and will remember him as one of the Fathers of Dermatology in Sweden!

Hans Rorsman was a widower since several years. Our thoughts go to his children and close relatives.

Uppsala, Linköping and Lund, in August 2014 Anders Vahlquist, Inger Rosdahl and Christer Hansson