

## " Memorial address"

Dr. Sajio Sumida, formerly the president of our society, passed away on November 1 after recuperation in the hospital. Our condolences go to your family.

In late July 2017, you asked me if I could collect the magazine "Cryobiology" covering the first to the last issue from the archive at your Ginza clinic. So, I visited the Sajio Sumida Clinic on the sixth floor of the Tugin 2 Building, 3-10-15 Ginza, Chuo-ku. I noticed a swelling on the left part of your neck. But you said you were just not feeling well after you got a tooth pulled out. In a different room, I was told by your secretary Mrs. Kitamura that you were diagnosed with a tumor on the back of your throat. She said the tumor had already spread. Several days later on July 17, you were admitted by an ambulance to the Omori Hospital run by the medical center of Toho University, your alma mater.

Dr. Sajio Sumida, you graduated from the Graduate School of Medicine at Toho University in 1964. You started to work for Surgery I of Toho University thereafter and moved to Surgery II of the Medical School at Kyushu University in 1968. Your specialty was heart surgery. Your activity base was at Chest Cardiovascular Surgery of National Fukuoka Chuo Hospital, now the National Hospital Organization Kyushu Medical Center. You moved around as a master surgeon in and out of Japan until 1999 when you reached the age of mandatory retirement.

Also, you were well versed in digestive surgery, particularly anus surgery. So, you performed anus surgery at the Sajio Sumida clinic. You were known for your research on the endotoxin shock and other shocks. But you were better credited with research on frozen blood.

In 1965, a clinical application of frozen blood was carried out at Surgery I of Toho University for the first time in Japan. Dr. Sajio Sumida, as the central personage, you contributed your article "Serum Hepatitis from Frozen Blood" to Lancet Volume 270 dated December 19, 1967. You took part in the international academic society Cryobiology. You attended the fifth convention of the society held in Washington D.C. in 1969. You continued to attend the annual convention continuously thereafter and became a fellow of the society.

In 1974, you launched the Japan Society for Low Temperature Medicine and chaired the first convention. The society held its 44th general assembly in October this year. You took the initiative for the management of the society, including the publication of a periodical magazine.

Dr. Sajio Sumida, you attended the annual convention of the International Society of Cryosurgery or ISC, starting from the third convention held in Barcelona in 1977

continuously onward. For your contribution, ISC appointed you as honorary chairman. You remained to be the top member, as well.

This year, ISC held its convention in Kaunas, Lithuania, in September. This venue was chosen under your leadership and you visited there for a preliminary check. Two subjects were posted in your name. Since you were unwell, however, I took over to make the presentations using the slides you made. One of the subjects was the history of cryosurgery. The other was the case of adipose-derived mesenchymal stromal cells being cultivated from skin tissue that was long preserved. I learned a great deal from the contents of both subjects.

You were committed to cell cultivation in your Ginza clinic in the central part of Tokyo. Your vitality inspired many practitioners who visited the clinic. In 2015, you were awarded the Murakami Memorial Prize from the Japan Society for Transfusion Medicine and Cell Therapy. Dr. Sajio Sumida, you spoke English so fluently that you had many supporters abroad.

On October 28, a social gathering took place at your favorite Ginza sushi restaurant after the 44th convention of the society held in Kamogawa. The gathering was attended by Prof. Xu Kecheng, Prof. Nikolai Korpan, and other guests from overseas. Dr. Sajio Sumida, you were staying in the hospital. But you came to the gathering on a care taxi accompanied by your family. At the request of guests from overseas, you jotted down encouraging messages in English on many sheets of paper.

On November 1, oral hemorrhage began again after a period of remission. You passed away due to the hemorrhage.

We wish we could have learned so many things from you. But our wish ended up in a dream. For now, we are determined to keep your teachings deep in our heart and strive for the development of the society.

Dr. Sajio Sumida, please watch over us from heaven.



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