## 8

## José María Ceriani Cernadas

Norma E. Rossato<sup>1</sup> ©

I have had the opportunity to share my professional life with Dr. Ceriani for many years.

In the pediatric residency at the Hospital Materno Infantil Ramón Sardá, he was the on-call physician on Wednesdays. When I was able to choose my on-call day, I opted to join his team. Perhaps by intuition, because of shared values, or because of his professional and human qualities. It was a wonderful learning experience in every sense.

When the opportunity arose to found the Neonatology Department at the Hospital Italiano, in 1977, Dr. Ceriani and his closest collaborators of recent years went there. He built a team of excellent professionals, but above all, with good people, as he said, because the rest can be learned. He gave us confidence in a path we had never taken before; we grew professionally and personally with the clear goal of providing high quality care with a strong humanistic focus.

Then life led me to other paths, with more family responsibilities and less dedication to the profession. When I gradually resumed my activity as a neonatologist, I received a call from Dr. Ceriani for a meeting at the Sociedad Argentina de Pediatría. It was late 2006, and the proposal was to join him at *Archivos Argentinos de Pediatría* as associate editor.

My only experience was reading scientific articles in my specialty as part of my academic training. The world behind scientific publications was completely unknown to me. I heard Dr. Ceriani say again that the important thing is to be a good person; the rest can be learned.

I discovered a fascinating world: getting to know each journal, its profile, objectives, and regulations. I learned about the international standards that define the quality of scientific publication, about the importance of ethics at every step of the editorial process, about the arduous peer review system, about human virtues and flaws, about gratitude and anger.

Thus began a true challenge toward excellence. Together with the entire editorial team, we wanted *Archivos* met the highest standards of scientific and editorial quality. In 2008, we achieved it. I can't forget the joy, at the end of an editors' meeting, when we received notification of *Archivos*' inclusion in Medline. Great joy and even greater commitment towards the future, to maintaining what we've achieved.

Every year, we participated in the meetings of the editors of the journals of the Pediatrics Societies of Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

There were 25 meetings with colleagues and

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friends, where Dr. Ceriani was undoubtedly the teacher everyone respected. This is how we learned about the hospitality of each country we visited, their achievements and difficulties, shared ideas, improved together, and forged bonds of friendship over the years.

On one of those trips, I remember that on the way to Carrasco Airport, after the meeting, Dr. Ceriani told me he had a project and wanted to make it a reality: the translation of *Archivos* into English, to extend it beyond our continent. It seemed difficult, but not impossible, and so, little by little, first the original articles and then the others, we arrived at what today allows us to be present in the most unthinkable places a few decades ago. There were other pending issues, such as the elimination of the print version of *Archivos*, in line with the global trend of commitment to ecology. It wasn't easy, like so many things, but little by little, the current electronic edition was achieved.

In 2011, when the Sociedad Argentina de Pediatría celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Dr. Ceriani chaired the Centennial Congress. It was a great opportunity to emphasize humanism in

medicine, with a special program "that addressed topics of pediatric practice from a very different perspective than that typically found at other congresses, primarily encompassing humanistic, social, anthropological, and philosophical aspects."

This different perspective on medical practice was later projected into the Humanism in Medicine Meetings, beginning in 2013, and finally through the creation of the Subcommittee on Humanities.

The pandemic brought a halt to these activities, as it did to so many others that radically changed many aspects of our professional lives. Our team continued working remotely. The Sociedad Argentina de Pediatría committees, each in their respective fields, generated the most up-to-date material on the topic. It was edited and published with all the urgency required by the times.

Now we have returned to a new normal. Remote work and virtual meetings are a regular part of our editorial work. Dr. Ceriani is not our editor-in-chief, but his values are deeply rooted: responsibility, commitment, and a desire to always seek the best.

Thank you, dear maestro. ■