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Ricardo Liendo (1955-2019) a Great Doctor, a Friend and a Good Person

Putting into words what Dr. Ricardo Liendo meant to me is not an easy task. He was one of the persons who had the most influence on my life.

I met Dr. Liendo in 1986, when we began to practice heart surgery at *Clínica Nueva Córdoba*, in Argentina. His immediate dedication to the project was total, and for two years we worked side by side, from one surgery to the other. In this way, complicity and friendship arose between us, with an unspoken language that only we understood just by looking at each other. This close relationship continued during his many visits to the University Hospital Complex A *Coruña*, in Spain.

Dr. Liendo was born in San Francisco, Córdoba; his family soon moved to Santa Clara de Saguier in the province of Santa Fe. He studied Medicine at the University of Córdoba. From 1983 to 1986, he was resident of cardiovascular surgery with Dr. René Favalloro at *Sanatorio Güemes* and became specialist in general and cardiovascular surgery. Since 1992 he was head of the Department of Cardiovascular Surgery at *Clínica Romagosa* in Córdoba.

He was in love with and a supporter of the doctor-patient relationship. He believed that medical work should be surrounded by honesty, dignity, and humility. He was a tireless innovator and understood cardiovascular surgery as an art, always supported by human values.

A great humanist. Dr. Liendo was overjoyed when he talked about his wife, children and granddaughters.

His loyalty to me had no limits, and his commitment was total.

I am honored to say that he was my friend. I cried and will mourn his absence.

I want to recall some words of María Zambrano, expressed in her book "Towards knowledge of the soul", speaking of the metaphor of the heart:

"Not only of bread lives Man, that is, not only of science and technology.

I do not know if the heart does anything. The heart has been everything, the center of the soul and of life in ancient Egypt, the seat of thought in the time of Aristotle, poetically important and core for some religions. The heart is love and music. Rhythm is its domain, as in every machine. The music of machines appeals, because it is the image of the music of the heart".

The heart was a major part of Ricardo's life, but he had another heart that made him unique to his family and friends.

Farewell, my friend!

Alberto Juffé Stein

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