

## **In Memory of Dr. Toshiaki Sano**

***"And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."***

Dr. Toshiaki Sano was a father, a friend, a teacher, a mentor, and a valued colleague. It was with great sadness that on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011 the world learned of his untimely death. None of us expected to hear or read these words so soon. Dr. Sano was born in Sapporo in 1949. He graduated in Medicine at Tokushima University. I met him in 1987 when he came to Toronto, Canada and worked with us on endocrine pathology.

I recall when he arrived and I told him: "Dr. Sano, you should write a review on GRH producing tumors". He accepted my suggestion and wrote an excellent review which was published in one of the leading endocrine journals. Dr. Sano participated in several projects which incorporated histology, immunohistochemistry and electron microscopy. He wrote with us, several papers that were published in peer-reviewed journals of high impact factor. He returned to Japan in 1989; continued to work in Tokushima and in 1995 was appointed to be Professor and Head of the Pathology Department in Tokushima University.

We continued our collaboration with him; performed research together, met at several meetings including those organized by him in Hakone, Japan in 1998 and more recently in Awaki, Japan in 2009 while he served as President of the Pituitary Pathology Club.

Dr. Sano loved Pathology. He always drove for excellence. He was an internationally recognized and respected academic pathologist, a dedicated teacher and an outstanding scientist. He was an inspiration to everyone. He contributed significantly to a better understanding of pituitary morphology and function and pituitary tumors.

We wish to express our deepest condolences to his loving wife Nobuko and two children and to all his friends and colleagues. We are all saddened by his premature departure and will never forget him.

***Research is simply a challenge to find the truth. If you derive pleasure from that, you're a scientist.***

***- Baruj Benacerraf, MD***

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