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SOCIÉTÉ FRANÇAISE DE Phlébologie

HOMMAGES





Michel le Chirurgien et Scientifique.

Michel the Surgeon and Scientist.

Bo Eklof MD, PhD
Founder and honorary member of the European Venous Forum
Clinical Professor Emeritus, University of Lund

Andrew Nicolaides MS, FRCS, PhD (Hon)
Chairman of the Board of the European Venous Forum.
Emeritus Professor of Vascular Surgery, Imperial College
Past-President of the International Union of Angiology,
Past-President of the Section of Measurement in Medicine
of the Royal Society of Medicine

"Michel was someone who made things happen.
Enthusiastic, full of fun and kind; he was a pioneer."

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Michel Perrin on Tuesday 7th March 2023.

Michel was 90 years old when he joined his beloved wife Jaqueline, leaving Ramsès, Raphaelle and Lionel behind.

Michel the Surgeon and Scientist

He was the greatest vascular surgeon of his time in France publishing close to 500 papers, chapters, and books. Not only had all French societies for vascular disease enjoyed his membership he also served as President for most. As the ambassador for French vascular surgery within the international vascular community, he had been invited on numerous occasions to speak on all continents.

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He became the first President of EVF which he created together with *Andrew Nicolaides* in 2000. Since then, we at EVF thought of him as a father figure, often guided by his wisdom and advice.

He was an honorary member in most European societies where he was given the highest awards, such as the *Ratschow medal in Germany* and *the gold medal in Russia* that he received at the same time as Bo in *Saint Petersburg in 2015*. *In the US he was an honorary member of both ACP and AVF*.

Back in 2005 Bo, as President for the AVF, invited Michel to give the prestigious Eugene Strandness Memorial Lecture as his Presidential guest lecturer.

His keynote speech was on "*The importance of International collaboration for the development of a scientific approach in venous disease*". A topic typical for Michel.

Such an honor is the highest given by AVF and he did not disappoint. He was given *the Gold medal from UIP* in 2018.

Michel's leading star was the French mathematician and philosopher René Descartes who developed the concept of Methodological Scepticism – "I think, therefore I am".

Michel realized the need for a better classification of venous disease – to speak the same language.

Bob Kistner, John Bergan and Bo Eklof organized a consensus meeting for AVF on Maui in 1994, moderated by *Andrew Nicolaides*, when the **CEAP classification** was created. Michel became the ambassador for CEAP in Europe.

In 1998 he organized a meeting in Paris where the classification of recurrent varicose veins – **REVAS** – was established, based on CEAP.

Together we continued to work on **VEIN TERM** to define terms utilized in phlebology, and **SYMvein** where we tried to describe venous symptoms of the legs and their relationship to chronic venous disorders.

In 2018 he published the **VEIN GLOSSARY** together with *Oscar Maleti* and *Bo Eklof* defining more than 1000 terms used in phlebology that was translated into 6 languages.



Michel Perrin at Modena

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Michel had a strong military marine historical background. He was an expert on sea battles, so much so, he often received invitations to lecture by the French admirals themselves. We remember well the outstanding applauded lecture he gave for the participants at our symposium onboard Hurtigruten along the Norwegian west coast in 2007 on "Second world war Norway sea battles April 1940". A treasured memory for all those who were there.

Michel was an epicure, enjoyed his life in Lyon, the capital of the world for good food and wine. He was a good friend of Paul Bocuse. He was always extolling the virtues of extraordinary wines and exquisite cheeses that were one of the great joys of life.

Michel was someone who made things happen. Enthusiastic, full of fun and kind; he was a pioneer.

Health wise the last few years presented various challenges for Michel, but he continued to participate and contribute at all the meetings he attended.

We received his last Joke of the Day about Murphy, his friend Pat and the Pastor the day before Michel died, when he sent his last mail: "*I bowed out 23/03/07. I will no more bother some of you by sending emails supposed to entertain. Make the most of your life that is running so fast*".

You were much loved and admired Michel, and you will be sadly missed.

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