

## In memoriam. Giuseppe Maria (Beppe) Cavallazzi.

*Umberto Ambrosetti and Arturo Zaghis*

Professor Giuseppe Maria Cavallazzi was born in Novara on April 27, 1936. He graduated in Medicine and Surgery at the University of Parma at the age of twenty-four. He served in the army at one of the most well-known barracks in the city of Mantua, where he held the role of medical officer. After completing his studies and specializing in Otorhinolaryngology, he participated in a public competition to become a lecturer at the University of Milan. He began his service on May 16, 1968, and soon after he started his career as a tenured assistant. In the meantime, he obtained the title of free lecturer in Otorhinolaryngology. He was a highly regarded collaborator of Professor Del Bo, initially serving as an assistant and later as an Associate Professor in Audiology, starting from July 26, 1982.

He practiced otologic surgery, applying the new techniques of tympanoplasty and stapedectomy. With skill and great dedication, he studied tympanometry and acoustic reflex testing, which was a new objective audiometry test at the time, publishing several scientific articles and presenting this subject in the official report of the XIV National Congress of the Italian Society of Audiology and Phoniatrics held in Rome in 1976, where he wrote the

chapter "Tympanometry and acoustic reflex testing."

He was one of the first proponents of the usefulness of hyperbaric oxygen therapy for the early treatment of sudden deafness, a practice that is still used and included in current treatment guidelines for the disease. Among the scientific topics he tackled, we recall the rehabilitation of profound childhood deafness, juvenile otosclerosis, and the study of labyrinthine fluids, particularly their ionic exchanges.

He was the director of the School of Specialization in Audiology and a lecturer at the master degree schools in Audiometry, Speech Therapy, and Hearing Aids Technicians, for which he created a modern and comprehensive volume on audiometric methods. His students remember him for his brilliant personality, kindness, empathy, vast audiological expertise, and generosity in clinical and surgical teaching, which he imparted through engaging and captivating lessons. His surgical technique was precise, fast, and highly versatile.

At the Sacco Hospital in Milan, he directed the ENT and the Institute of Audiology until his retirement. He passed away on November 21, 2024.



*from the left: Prof. Pietro Lenzi, Prof. Antonio Cesarani, Prof. Giuseppe Maria Cavallazzi, Prof. Massimo Del Bo, Prof. Antonio Arpini, Prof.ssa. Adriana De Filippis, Prof. Giovanni Perani.*