In Memoriam: Jean Bernard Causse, M.D.

With profound regret and a deep sense of loss, the Martha Entenmann Tinnitus Research Center, Inc., and the staff of the *International Tinnitus Journal* (ITJ) express sincerest condolences and sympathy to the family of Jean Bernard Causse, M.D., who died December 13, 2001.

We at the ITJ have lost a friend. I am sure that all who were fortunate to have had contact with Jean Bernard, be it in a professional capacity as one physician to another or in attendance at a lecture or a surgical demonstration that he gave, experienced his honesty and open-mindedness, not only for the subject matter being presented or discussed but for his interest expressed in each of us as individuals. He was the best of what a human being can be.

We at the Martha Entenmann Tinnitus Research Center, Inc., were blessed that he shared with us our interest in tinnitus. He was a member of the editorial board of the ITJ, participated in meetings of the Neurotological and Equilibrimetric Society, and authored a manuscript that was published in volume 7, issue 1 of the ITJ. That article described his surgical technique for attempting to influence a cochlea-type tinnitus and a theory to explain his results; we consider it a landmark contribution that will be consulted for all time.

Our specialty of otology-neurootology has lost one of its leaders. Jean Bernard’s contributions have been recognized worldwide by memberships in international societies and by honors from leading otology societies. His contributions were recognized by the French Legion of Honor in 1999; by a Certificate of Honor from the American Academy of Otolaryngology in 1999; and as a member of the Marquis Who’s Who in the World, 1998. Clinically, he was a master in stapes surgery. He performed more stapes operations than anyone in the world, having been cited for performing in excess of 25,000 such procedures.

Jean Bernard was open and approachable and loved to discuss scientific issues. He sought unique approaches for answers to scientific questions in otology. He achieved greatness with his surgery, his teaching, and his humanity. All who knew him were privileged to have had the experience and cherish his friendship, generosity, and charm.

We mourn the loss of a giant in our field. We celebrate the life that he shared with all of us who came to know him. Dear friend, rest quietly. We honor your life in the example that you have set for us with your honesty and shared experiences, both of which have benefited humankind.

To Jean Bernard’s wife, Isabel, his son, Jerome, and his daughter, Annabel, we extend our sincerest condolences and our wish that the memory of Jean Bernard will provide comfort and sustenance in the years to come.

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