In Memoriam: Prof. Dr. Ludwig Podoshin, M.D.

The Bnai-Zion Medical Center (Rothschild Hospital) and the staff of the Ear, Nose, and Throat (ENT) Department extend our sincerest condolences and sympathy to the family of Prof. Ludwig Podoshin, who died January 27, 2003. The history of his life was received from his close friend, Prof. Dov Golan, former director of Bnai-Zion Medical Center.

Prof. Podoshin was an only child of parents Joseph and Anna. His father was a pharmacist, and his family were

highly respected members of their community. After the Nazi occupation of Poland, at the age of 8 years, Ludwig was separated from his parents and was hidden during the war in a priest's home. Meanwhile, at a separate location, his parents also successfully survived. However, all members of his extended family perished during the Holocaust. Fortunately, Ludwig and his parents found each other and were reunited after the war.

After Ludwig had completed his medical studies in Stetin (1956), the family emigrated to Israel, where Ludwig was drafted into the Israeli army. During his military service, he served as an ENT specialist at the Rambam Hospital, Haifa. Later, he was appointed head of ENT services in the Haifa Military Hospital.

In 1965, Prof. Podoshin was appointed head of the newly established ENT department at the Rothschild Hospital, a position he held for 32 years until his retirement in 1997. As a result of his outstanding leader-



ship, the department that he founded and developed evolved into a leading ENT department for the entire country.

Among his contributions and achievements, Prof. Podoshin was responsible for developing and implementing many new methods, and he was active and enthusiastic in the education of young specialists. With his warm, magnetic personality, he inspired an integrative working relationship with other ENT departments

around the country and the world. Among his many affiliations and contributions were his service as the Israeli chairperson of the Neurootological and Equilibriometric Society (NES) and as president of Haifa's Society of the Hearing Impaired. Before his retirement in 1997, Prof. Podoshin organized the Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Congress of the NES in Haifa. He considered this congress to be one of the most important events of his professional career.

We at the Bnai-Zion Hospital have benefited from Ludwig's leadership and sharing of clinical experience and always will remember him for his professional accomplishment. We were fortunate to have known Ludwig as a teacher, colleague, and friend.

> J. Ben-David, M.D. M. Fradis, M.D. D. Golan, M.D.

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The editorial board and staff of the *International Tinnitus Journal* mourn the loss of our good friend and colleague Prof Dr. Ludwig Podoshin. It has been our good fortune to have experienced his zest for life, dedication to family and friends, and sharp intellect.

Ludwig was an early member of the Neurootological and Equilibriometric Society (NES), joining that organization in 1978. He was proud to serve as the Israeli chairperson of the NES. At his invitation, Prof. Dr. Claus Frenz-Claussen visited Haifa in 1980–1981 and introduced his neurootological teaching to Israel. This led to collaboration between Drs. Claussen and Podoshin for the clinical application of evoked potentials into neurootology, specialty training in neurootology for medical staff at the Bnai-Zion Medical Center, and meetings of the NES in Israel in 1990 and 1997.

Professionally, Ludwig's contributions to otolaryngology and specifically to otology and neurootology gained international recognition. At the Bnai-Zion Medical Center, he shared his ideas with staff, students, and colleagues, always for the benefit of the patient.

Ludwig was not afraid of new ideas and concepts. His invitation to our tinnitus team to visit Haifa, Israel, and the Bnai-Zion Medical Center was memorable, for it provided an opportunity to exchange information and clinical experiences and to share in Ludwig's pride of staff, his family, and his beloved country. Dr. Goldstein, my wife, Arlene, and I (A.S.) have often reflected on an evening in Ludwig's home, where he shared with us his love for his wife, Pia, and son, Shai, and his expansive interests in music and fine art. He brought all of us together and shared with us his enthusiasm for tomorrow. Claus called him a "bridge builder."

Rest easy, good friend. We celebrate your life and will not forget.

Abraham Shulman, M.D. Barbara Goldstein, Ph.D. Claus F. Claussen, M.D.