Giancarlo Fabrizzi RIP

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Giancarlo Fabrizzi died suddenly and unexpectedly in Ancona, Italy, in February 2011.

Dr Fabrizzi was a dedicated and enthusiastic member of ESPR, and his role within European radiology inspired important, indeed exceptional, contributions to the Italian Society of Paediatric Radiology.

Gianni was born in Ancona, on the east coast of central Italy, in 1948.

He graduated with a medical degree from the University of Perugia in 1973, subspecialising in radiology in 1976 and then in nuclear medicine in 1981.

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Initially a resident physician at the Ancona Cancer Hospital 1974 – 1982, he accepted the position of consultant radiologist at the General Hospital of Ancona in 1982.

In 1991 he became chief of radiology at the Salesi Paediatric Hospital of Ancona, a position he retained until his tragic and unexpected death.

At the time of his appointment as chief of radiology at Salesi, the close-knit community of paediatric radiologists from within the institution looked at him with mild suspicion as an outsider. Gianni Fabrizzi, being a man of perspicacious intelligence, with great humanity and empathic ability, soon won them over with his wise strategic vision and cautious forward-planning. He rapidly demonstrated a unique ability to see beyond the trivial, but he always retained a liberal, creative and very humane framework. With his in-depth knowledge and sound medical experience of adult CT and interventional radiology, he introduced new and important knowledge into Italian paediatric radiology.

As president of the Italian Paediatric Radiology Society 2006 – 2010, Gianni was a national leader in many specific areas of interest within paediatric radiology, including chest imaging, imaging of child abuse, and radiation protection.

He was a bon viveur and a true polymath with many hobbies and interests including travelling, sport (cycling, scuba diving), photography, and he loved spending time with his dog, Oliver.

Fabrizzi leaves his much-beloved wife Patrizia, to whom he was married for 38 years, his two children and two grandchildren.

His friends within the radiology community mourn his death, as they have lost a wise counsellor, a great friend and a devoted colleague.

The junior contingent of young radiologists mourn the loss of a great teacher, mentor and inspirational leader.