

Obituary Nader Mohamed Souelem F.R.C.S. 1920–1986

Professor Nader M. Souelem, Professor of Plastic Surgery at Ain Shams Faculty of Medicine passed away of a heart attack on October 11, 1986. He was born December 19, 1920, attended the primary French school at Mansoura and the secondary school at Khedive Ismail at Cairo. He earned the M.B. Bch. from Kasar El Aini Faculty of Medicine in December 1945 and his fellowship from the Royal College of Surgeons in June 1954. Professor Souelem received his training in plastic and reconstructive surgery at East Grinstead as a register for the late Sir Archibald McIndoe, the famous world-known plastic surgeon. He joined the staff of Ain Shams Faculty of Medicine where he established a plastic surgery section and a burn center. Starting out as a demonstrator and then a lecturer and an assistant professor, he was finally appointed professor of plastic surgery on June 23, 1970.

One of Professor Souelem's highest achievements was his training of young plastic surgeons. He had the talent of being able to choose the best candidates from among the surgical residents to become his trainees. When he passed away his school of plastic surgery comprised many plastic surgeons who loved him and with his death lost a teacher and a father. He was sometimes hard, severe, and furious with some of his trainees, but he was also very good hearted to his students.

Professor Nader Souelem was a founding member of the Egyptian Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery in 1962. He was elected its president five times. At the age of 60 he was elected honorary vice president for life. He established as the foundation of the society that the young will respect the old, and the junior his senior. These rules were affirmed, stressed, and accomplished by

all the members. Love governed the relationship between all the members.

Souelem always made a good impression on his colleagues and students in any conversation. He had both wit and wisdom on his tongue. A witty remark often settled a hot argument or discussion. He was a charming story teller: humor, surprise, apprehension and despair were all portrayed so realistically that he always had his entire audience's undivided attention.

He had many friends in many walks of life, not only in Egypt but in many countries of the Arab world, Africa, Europe, and the United States.

Perhaps his most abiding hobby was sports. While a former international wrestler, Souelem soon became the vice president of the Egyptian amateur wrestling association and then vice president of the National Club of Cairo. He was the head doctor of the Egyptian olympic team in 1960. Nader was elected to the medical committee of FIFA in 1977 and soon he became an indispensable member of the said Committee. His profound knowledge and dynamic work were extremely appreciated by everyone. He was recognized as a capable lecturer and instructor for representatives of sports medicine. Nader Souelem was also a member of CAF (the African Football Confederation) medical committee. Professor Souelem died at Conakry where he was conducting a sports medicine course for the French-speaking countries of West Africa.

Finally, Professor Nader Souelem was elected the National Secretary of the ISAPS for Egypt.

Nader Souelem left no children but he left numerous students, trainees, friends, and colleagues who will not cease to remember him.