

Obituary

Prof. Dr. Arist Stender



Arist Stender, Emeritus Professor of Neurosurgery and former Director of the Neurological-Neurosurgical University Hospital Berlin Westend died on April 22, 1975 at the age of 72.

He was one of those neurosurgeons who always paid special attention to the neurological part of their specialty. As a pupil of Max Nonne and Otfried Foerster he adored particularly the great founders of the

theory of localisation of the brain, Hughlings Jackson, Eduard Hitzing, and Carl Wernicke. A great deal of his own scientific work was dedicated to neurological and neuropathological problems of brain localisation. In 1932 and 1933 he spent a particularly important year of his training at the American Institutes of Harvey Cushing and Percival Bailey. In 1939 he succeeded at Breslau Otfried Foerster, whose first assistant he had been since 1935.

During the war he dedicated himself successfully to the care of peripheral nerve injuries, and systematically enlarged the basic knowledge accumulated by Otfried Foerster. Following the war, when he was forced to give up the directorship of his hospital in Breslau, he immediately succeeded in founding a Neurological-Neurosurgical Department at the University Hospital of Westend in Berlin-Charlottenburg. This very soon became one of the leading centres for teaching and research.

In 1950 he was one of the leading founders of the German Society of Neurosurgery, and in 1969 he became one of its honorary members. The planning of the two recently inaugurated Neurosurgical Clinics in Berlin-Westend and Berlin-Steglitz, conceived according to the most modern concepts, was largely his work.

Arist Stender earned outstanding merit during the stormy development of neurosurgery in the last decades. He was a man of high qualities as a scientist, a physician, and a human being.

He cherished his many foreign neurosurgical connections before and after the war, and had friends all over the world. Not only we his pupils, but also neurosurgery as a whole have much for which to thank him.

HELMUT PENZHOLZ