Obituary

Ottavio Bosello¹ · Massimo Cuzzolaro²

© Springer Nature Switzerland AG 2020

Nazario Melchionda died at dawn on April 27, 2020. He was born in 1939. Graduated in Medicine, specialist in internal medicine and food science, author of a large number of scientific publications, he was professor of endocrinology at the University of Bologna Alma Mater, until his retirement.

He was among the founders and presidents of the Italian Society for the Study of Eating Disorders (SISDCA) and the Italian Society for Obesity (SIO). Twenty-five years ago, he collaborated in the birth of *Eating and Weight Disorders*.

Since the early 1970s, he devoted himself to the study of obesity and eating behaviors. At that time, obesity was considered only the effect of gluttony and lack of willingness of individuals. The associated risk of morbidity and mortality was not attributed to excess weight but the concomitance of morbid events. The therapy was the only diet. In dissonance with these beliefs, some young researchers and clinicians put forward different ideas, researched the risks of excess weight, the distribution of adipose tissue, metabolism alterations, different phenotypes of obesity, and the possibility of new therapeutic approaches. Great attention was paid to the relationship between obesity and eating behavior. Eating disorders and body weight regulation appeared immediately as two sides of the same coin. Nazario was one of those researchers. He dedicated clinical activity, research, teaching

to that field of study. In the last years, he was particularly interested in the study of food addiction. We worked together for several decades, bound by a strong relationship of friendship and esteem.

Nazario Melchionda also had other interests. He was a marathon runner and ran in New York and in the desert. He built figurative works characterized by a metaphorical and surreal style. He knew and deeply loved jazz, and in everything, from work to music, he lavished an impetuous passion.

On Saturday 7th December 2019, a few months before his death, with a group of young musicians from the conservatory, Nazario organized an extraordinary artistic performance in Bologna, in the Church of Santissimo Salvatore. We remember him thus, immersed in those images and sounds.

Goodbye, dear friend.

Ottavio Bosello and Massimo Cuzzolaro

Publisher's Note Springer Nature remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.

✉ Massimo Cuzzolaro
massimo.cuzzolaro@gmail.com

¹ Verona, Italy

² Campiglia Marittima, Italy