



### *In Memoriam:*

## Dr Mario Martignoni

I met Mario Martignoni about 45 years ago. Even by that time he was a leader, and his passion for teaching and attention to detail had no equal.

The members of the European Academy of Esthetic Dentistry remember him with great affection. He was one of our life members and lectured many times at our meetings, even at the very beginning, when associating with our group was not considered “appropriate” by most in the academic environment. Mario, however, did not know how to compromise, and he never concealed his sympathy toward the philosophy and mission of the Academy.

In dentistry, he was a true innovator. He introduced the scientific approach, the knowledge of the literature, the multidisciplinary approach, the respect for biology, and the importance of precision in daily clinical practice. Very few have represented Italy abroad as successfully as he did.

He was a stern and tough educator with his students and coworkers. He had the spirit of a captain eager to teach his soldiers everything he knows, to make them into true professionals and true men.

As the years went by (I am not using the words “as he got old,” because he always remained young among his young students), some of the sharper aspects of his character became softer, making him, in my opinion, even greater as a teacher and human being.

Mario passed away on January 8, 2006, leaving behind a great void, and at the same time, a great legacy. This legacy, together with his memory, will be with all of us for a long time to come.

Dr Adriano Bracchetti  
*Member of the European Academy  
of Esthetic Dentistry*