

Toulouse, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

To the President of the Brazilian Society of Pathology,

Two Brazilian doctors and friends of mine, Prof. Dr José Vassallo and Prof. Dr Geisi Paiva come to inform me of the death of my friend and colleague Prof. Antônio Correa Alves. I had met Antônio in 1981 during my first stay in Brazil at the Butantan Institute. It was Prof. Jesus Machado who had organized my stay and a series of conferences on hematopathology. I had, for the first time, met Brazilian pathologists, many of whom, unfortunately, have left us (Drs Jesus Machado and Michalany from Sao Paolo, Dr Onofre from Rio and many others). It was the beginning of immunohistochemistry applied to histopathological diagnosis and in particular hematopathology. I had noted that Brazilian pathologists were very interested in new techniques and of course in hematopathology. This trip was for me the opportunity to discover Brazil and its culture. I have been back to Brazil several times, always with the same pleasure. In 1982, Antonio had expressed the wish to do an internship in my laboratory and, subsequently, other pathologists, Dr Jesus Machado, of course, Dr Onofre, and the younger generation of Brazilian pathologists (Pr. Dr José Vassallo and Pr. Dr Geisi Paiva) followed his example. The doctors and technicians of the laboratory have very good memories of Antônio. He was an excellent pathologist, very rigorous, passionate, but also very kind. In addition, he had made the effort to learn French and, after a month in Toulouse, he was able to chat with everyone. He had easily integrated into my family, and my circle of friends found him sympathetic and interesting. The year 1982 was that of the football world cup in Spain and we had watched several matches together, especially those of the Brazilian team, that he supported with passion. Since his stay in Toulouse, he never forgot to call on December 25 to wish me a Merry Christmas. He is a very dear friend who has just left. Antonio strengthened the relations between French and Brazilian pathologists, which continue today with my successor Professor Pierre Brousset and the young generation of Brazilian pathologists. I ask you to kindly convey to his wife and children my very sincere condolences as well as those of my colleagues and friends from Toulouse.

Prof. Georges Delsol