

VARIA

In memoriam – Cristian Babalâc (1954-2006)

Dan Mischianu

I am absolutely convinced that you have never wondered what the etiology of the *ferpar* word is.

The Romanian *ferpar* has its origin linked to the French "fair-part", which, according to the dictionary means a letter "announcing birth, engagement, marriage or, most often someone's death". The above lines are not intended to be a late *ferpar*.

These lines are supposed to bring back the memory of an absolutely exceptional man, a thorough man and a fighter, a true military doctor - Col. Dr. Cristian Babalâc (1954-2006), my University colleague. I also hope that these lines will make you realize that time passes quickly destroying everything on its way.

And time, a decent gentleman for some, covering us with a veil of forgetfulness, time "has a bad habit of being irreversible", as we learned from Octavian Paler.

Our desire is to present the portrait of the man, the military doctor, the professional Cristian Babalâc, because Dr. Cristian Babalâc was – and "to be" in the past tense sounds so sad! – a devoted man and practitioner that always proved an absolute professional availability.

My group colleague and my friend, Dr. Cristian Babalâc was born in Bucharest, on 13 January 1954 on Teodosie Rudeanu street, near North Railway Station, a few hundred meters from the Institute of Military Medicine, the place or "origin" of our emergence, the ones from yesterday, today and future serving Romanian military medicine.

Graduated from High School "Ion Neculce" Bucharest

(1973), Faculty of Medicine Bucharest (1979), Doctor of Medicine with the thesis "The value of laser in the surgical treatment of soft part tumors" (1997), specialist doctor in Orthopedics and Traumatology (1989), Senior researcher (1990), consultant in Orthopedics and Traumatology (1995).



He participated as a member or responsible at research contracts, guided numerous diplomas and internships, conducted/aided the full range of orthopedics – traumatology procedures, 15 patents and 7 innovation patents for different medical devices: gurney for the transport of traumatized, forearm electronic prosthesis controlled by sensors, bioelectronic prosthesis for superior limb, immobilizer and transportation device for polytrauma patients, external bipolar monoplane fixator, semicircular external fixator, circular external fixator, universal external fixator, grapples for osteotomy. He

introduced "CO₂ surgical laser treatment in musculoskeletal limb tumors" for the first time in the country.

Published the treatise: "Laser in the treatment of musculoskeletal diseases" (co-author) Military Publishing House Bucharest (1999), "Course of emergency and disaster medicine" (co-author) MTM Publishing, Consult Publishing (2003), 147 (20 as first author) communicated papers at congresses, conferences, symposiums in the country and abroad, 28 articles (4 as first author) published in journals: "Journal of Military Medicine", "Journal of Orthopedics and Traumatology", "News Update", "Balkan Military Medical Journal", a member of SOROT – Romanian Society of Osteoporosis Treatment, Romanian Society of Laser in Medicine and Biology, Romanian Association of Military Physicians and Pharmacists.

I knew him as a student and we operated together as specialist surgeons. Dr. Cristian Babalâc was a hard worker by definition, an absolute perfectionist, continually dissatisfied with his achievements – although he managed to accomplish everything he undertook, a deep thinker, a cerebral man, a genuine family man.

He was particularly pleased with the silence at home,

the achievements of his wife, the distinguished Head of Hospital Pharmacy of "Prof. Theodor Burghele" Hospital – Ms. Pharmacist Gabriela Babalâc, and the professional accomplishments of their son – Cătălin Babalâc.

Col. Dr. Cristian Babalâc was a "serious man", a professional of orthopedics and traumatology of the Central Military Hospital. Nevertheless, medicine is very often defeated by disease severity.

I confess that I had a sense of absolute helplessness when I was near the bedside of Dr. Cristian Babalâc!

Lack of health, the implacable decline, and the mortal character of all beings – but most of all those close to our soul – are almost unapproachable subjects. As I was writing these lines I was overwhelmed by bleak thoughts.

My intention was only one, to restore the memory of those who knew and valued him, a decade after his passing, the luminous figure of Dr. Cristian Babalâc, although "slightly frown as a result of the multitude of his thoughts".

Leaving us ten years ago after unimaginable suffering, I think Dr. Cristian Babalâc kept one hope in his noble and good soul: maybe better is yet to come!

May God bless his soul!