

Julien Reich

- **Aesth. Plast. Surg. 17:169-171, 1993 Aesthetic _ Plastic Surgery © 1993 Springer-Verlag New York Inc. Obituary: Julien Reich (1924-1992) Ulrich T. Hinderer, M.D. Madrid, Spain**
- Our ISAPS family has to say goodbye to one of its outstanding members, Prof. Julien Reich. To paraphrase Jorge Manrique, maybe one day, we will meet Julien again in the immense sea where our lives, like rivers, end. Therefore, I prefer to say "Auf Wiedersehen," Julien, in the language he first spoke. In obituaries, usually only favorable words are said, while negative aspects, unpleasant character traits, or adverse personal feelings, sometimes based on envy, are covered by a white blanket falling into oblivion or forgiveness. However, with Julien there is no need for face lifting. Only once actually, on the occasion of an ISAPS Course in Tokyo--so surprising because it was unexpected--we saw Julien losing his temper. His personality was full of positive aspects and I feel fortunate that I was given the opportunity to have known him, to have collaborated with him in the development of educational aspects within the ISAPS, and to have learned from his excellent lectures. The world only progresses through what we give, what we share with others in the quest for eternal values such as Goodness, Generosity, Truth and Justice, Freedom, and also Beauty. Julien has undoubtedly given much to his friends, colleagues and patients, maybe because of not having had an easy transit in this life. Julien Reich was born in Cologne, Germany on August 16, 1924 and was educated in that city, in Paris, in Liverpool, and in Melbourne. Owing to unfortunate events during the prelude to World War II, he was unable to accept his admission in 1938 to the "Conservatoire International de Musique" in Paris. Julien left Europe and arrived with his parents in Australia in 1940. He was a truly multifaceted man. Whilst being apprenticed as a furrier, Julien pursued his studies not only in music but in the sciences at night school and qualified to commence the Dental course in Melbourne in 1942. Awarded with scholarships, he was graduated with honors in 1947. During this time, as a member of the Victorian Symphony Orchestra and an accepted lieder vocalist, Julien continued to pursue his studies in these fields at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music. He was an accomplished violinist, and even delighted us by playing piano on his last visit to Berlin in 1990, on occasion of the ISAPS Instructional Course. Julien completed the degree of Master of Dental Science in 1950. Appointed to the chair in Conservative Dentistry at the University of Melbourne, he
- 170 Obituary initiated many innovations, for example, in Endodontia. However, having always desired a career in Medicine, he simultaneously took his medical course and graduated M.B., B.S., in 1954 with honors in Surgery. He completed his training for the Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 1960. He resigned his Professorship of Dentistry at the Melbourne University in 1962 to specialize in Plastic Surgery at the Alfred Hospital, Melbourne, and then travelled overseas to the Mount Vernon Center for Plastic Surgery in London in 1963. Julien completed his studies in aesthetic plastic surgery in Mexico with Mario Gonz~ilez-

Ulloa, in Brazil with Ivo Pitanguy, and in Argentina with Jose Vifias. In the ISAPS, Julien served as Regional Secretary for Australia from 1976 to 1979 and was Second Vice-president from 1980 to 1982. Convinced of the need for an aesthetic plastic surgery society in Australia, he served as the Foundation Chairman and President of the Australasian Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery in 1978. In my last Executive Committee meeting, held in Baden-Baden in September 1976, a decision was made to name a Course Director for each term of office with the multiple aim of developing guidelines to improve the organization of Postgraduate courses, selecting the Faculty, and directing the Scientific Programs of future courses. Julien was proposed for this post by Paule Regnault, and was unanimously elected. Julien asked me to serve as his Co-Chairman, and I accepted with pleasure. During his term of office, Julien arranged excellent courses in Tokyo (Japan), Bilbao (Spain), Lausanne (Switzerland), Ankara (Turkey) and in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil). He was also the Scientific Program Chairman of the VIth ISAPS Congress held in 1981 in Tokyo. Guidelines for the organization of Postgraduate courses and basic criteria for the selection of Faculty members were established. The Executive Committee approved the suggestion to confer a Diploma Obituary: Julien Reich (1924-1992) Leo Rozner and Benjamin C. Cohny Perth, Australia of "Postgraduate Professor of the ISAPS" to all outstanding Faculty members who had contributed to more than 5 courses; of course, Julien was among these. To collaborate with Julien was easy and pleasant as he was a well organized man with excellent ideas. Julien, above all, was an outstanding teacher: clear, straight, well organized and didactic. Based on his profound knowledge of psychology and psychopathology, his lectures about patient-plastic surgeon relationships (in which he did not forget to call attention to the possible pathological reactions caused by inadequate behavior of the plastic surgeon) will remain in the memory of his faculty colleagues and of all those colleagues attending. Julien was also one of the pioneers of "inferior flap mammoplasty techniques" for breast reduction and he described the usefulness of dermis grafts in secondary rhinoplasties. In April 1989 a meningioma of the pineal region was discovered, explored and histology secured. After gamma knife surgery was carried out at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville in December 1989, Julien was able to continue with his work. A June 1991 report, however, indicated that further growth necessitated another operation. His health deteriorated, but with dignity and courage and constant care, love, and attention from his wife, Ada, Julien was able to rest in the beauty and tranquility of their home in the country. To his wife, with whom he was closely united, our deepest sympathy and thankfulness for her devotion and care both in the happy moments of life, as collaborator in his work and, above all, in the long period of time of encircling darkness. "The life of the death consists in being present in the spirit of those living" (Cicero). Although we will have to miss Julien personally, he will remain with us through his lectures and publications and will also be in our memory as a straight and trustful friend with a great sense of humor. With the premature passing of Julien Reich, ISAPS and the plastic surgery community in Australia have lost one of their most colorful representatives and advocates for aesthetic plastic surgery. Since 1987 he had held the Professorship of the Post-Graduate Education Board in Aesthetic Plastic Surgery of ISAPS. Julien Reich was born in Cologne, Germany and had part of his school education in

Cologne, Paris, London, and Melbourne. From the very outset of his student days, he was a dedicated and brilliant student who matriculated for the University of Melbourne in 1943. Commencing a dental course, he graduated from the University of Melbourne in Dental Science in 1947 taking first place on the final examination list. His academic talents led him along a career path to the very top of his dental profession; he was appointed as Professor of Conservative Den-

- Obituary 171 tistry in the University of Melbourne in 1958. Along the way he gained his Master of Dental Science in 1950 and was elected a fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons in 1968. He retained the post of Professor from 1958 until 1961 and during this time he threw himself into redesigning and redeveloping the Royal Dental Hospital. It is said that he foresaw the need for this new development and virtually designed it single-handedly in cooperation with the builders and architects. Whilst still a full-time academic, he continued to widen his studies and undertook a medical course at the University of Melbourne, graduating Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery in 1954. Whilst holding his chair in Conservative Dentistry, he was able to complete the necessary internships in order to commence his career as a plastic surgeon which culminated in his becoming a fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in October 1959. Recognizing the need to gain extra experience in surgery, he became a clinical supervisor of academic activities at the Alfred Hospital Melbourne. In 1962 he departed for the United Kingdom where he obtained a plastic surgery residency at Mount Vernon Hospital which was headed by a renowned leader in plastic surgery in the person of Mr. Rainsford Mowlem. In due course he returned to Melbourne and commenced a very successful private plastic surgery practice with a special interest in aesthetic surgery. His early contributions were papers on the psychological and sociological effects of appearance and their correction by suitable surgery. Subsequently, he published many papers including a number on breast and rhinoplastic surgery being a strong advocate of the inferior pedicle-type procedure for breast reduction. Realizing the importance of developing international ties and despite the need to look after a growing private practice, he travelled extensively to get to know personally the leading plastic surgeons in the world; he was therefore able to not only exchange ideas but help plastic surgeons in other countries as well. Australian plastic surgery also benefited from the dissemination of his wide knowledge through these contacts. He became part of the Plastic and Reconstructive International Surgical Group and fostered and became part of a very vigorous teaching program with the International Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery. He also became one of the earliest corresponding members of the American Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery and was one of the three initial founders of the Australian Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery and its President for two terms. In all these activities he sought perfection and led by example. An extremely clear thinker, he had a remarkable ability to communicate. This made him a valued lecturer and a diverting speaker, and although very didactic, he showed a keen and warm sense of humor. His many surgical friends all over the world owe him a great deal and his inspiration will surely be missed. He was a member of many international societies, among them the British Association of Plastic Surgery, the American Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery, and the International Society of

Aesthetic Plastic Surgery. In all of these he played a very active role and influenced their development, especially in accepting Aesthetic Plastic Surgery as an integral part of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. Besides these many activities which occupied much of his time, he was a talented musician and a leader singer. Among other activities he had learnt to sculpt and to produce ceramics, and, as mentioned previously, was skilled enough to lead the architects in designing the Royal Melbourne Dental Hospital. His life and interests were characterized by a burning ambition to aspire to the best. Even in his hobby of raising tropical fish, he became a world expert after owning an aquarium. Another hobby was to cultivate walnuts; he studied horticulture and produced many innovations and improvements in their farming. He died peacefully after a long illness and is survived by his second wife, Ada, and two sons who are the issue of his first marriage, to Shirley. All the plastic surgical world extend to Ada and his sons their sincere sympathies on the loss of this outstanding man and friend.