

## Dr. Juan Carlos Figueroa Casas



With deep sorrow, the Argentine pulmonology community, through the Argentine Association of Respiratory Medicine (AAMR), bids farewell on February 17, 2026, to Dr. Juan Carlos Figueroa Casas, a pillar of the specialty in our country. He was a specialist in Pulmonology and Critical Care, Director of the Hospital del Centenario in Rosario, and also Head of the Intensive Care Unit for more than 20 years. He was Director of the post-graduate program in Pulmonology, where he trained generations of specialists. He was appointed a Member of the National Academy of Medicine in 2016, and also served as Head of the Chair of Medical Pathology at the Universidad Nacional de Rosario, as well as a member of the Board of the American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP) and of the Editorial Committee of the CHEST journal.

Those of us who write this tribute, having known Dr. Figueroa Casas both professionally and personally for more than 25 years –through the AAMR and even before its creation– bear witness to his work, and do so with pride, knowing that a warm and enduring friendship developed over time.

There is so much to say about him... so we will summarize his main achievements. First, he was an excellent organizer –meticulous and attentive to detail– who guided the work of his collaborators with respect, tolerance, and the strength of his own effort and example.

His second virtue was humility. He was a professor, respected by national and international peers for his knowledge, scientific contributions, and published work. He was a natural teacher. His presentations attracted large audiences, and despite that prestige, he remained approachable and friendly with everyone, always responding with respect and kindness. His third virtue was generosity, which helped many colleagues participate in international conferences. This is undoubtedly the most important sign of generosity, which in our field is unfortunately uncommon.

Rev Am Med Resp 2026;26:46-47. <https://doi.org/10.56538/ramr.LQIQ8742>



<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

He was a strong advocate of a more federal approach of the profession, and as a physician from outside the capital city, he sought to balance the devouring metropolis with doctors who, despite technical limitations, practice our specialty with a spirit of service in every corner of the country.

On a personal level, he was a great human being and friend. It was always a pleasure to speak with him about a wide range of topics—from AAMR matters to national news or the latest article in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, which he had, of course, already read. His beloved Gracie often accompanied him, reflecting the deep family affection that characterized his large and close-knit family.

We have lost a unique person—a natural leader with a remarkable human and academic character—who leaves us a great example to follow and sets a high standard for future generations of pulmonologists and AAMR leaders, who will look to the figure of Dr. Juan Carlos Figueroa Casas for inspiration. We will remember him as a great captain, steering the ship of our beloved AAMR to a safe harbor, and leading us—his crew—with firmness, conviction, and humility.

For all this and so much more, farewell forever, our CAPTAIN!!!

**Dr. Eduardo Schiavi**

**Dr. Ana María López**