Obituary

We mourn the death of Professor Emeritus Tadashi Inoue

It is with great regret that we announce the death of Professor Emeritus Tadashi Inoue. He died after a short illness with pneumonia on 19 September 2007 at the age of 83. Private memorial services and the funeral were held on 23 and 24 September 2007, and a memorial ceremony in remembrance of Professor Inoue will be held on 25 November 2007 at Kitasato Memorial Hall, Faculty of Medicine, Keio University.

As a boy, the professor was athletically inclined and was well known for his ability to do chin-ups and push-ups. He entered the Japanese military academy after completing his work at the 5th Junior High School in Tokyo metropolitan.

Five years of experience as a cadet and military officer, he often remarked, had a great influence on his life and spiritual development.

Retiring to civilian life at the end of World War II, Professor Inoue entered the faculty of medicine at Keio University and eventually became a surgeon. After extensive training in pediatric surgery, he elected to apply his skills in the special division of cardiovascular surgery. From there he made his way through a new field with the pump-lung machine, and in 1972 he was promoted to professor of thoracic surgery at Keio University.

In 1984, Professor Inoue directed the 14th annual scientific meeting of the Japanese Society for Cardiovascular Surgery, and in 1986 the 39th annual meeting of the Japanese Association for Thoracic Surgery. He was a member of the editorial board of the Annals of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery. His outstanding contributions to the field of support systems for aortic surgery, such as long temporary external bypass and his able leadership in its application to aortic surgery, won him outstanding respect both in Japan and abroad.

We shall always remember him, not only as a cardiovascular surgeon, but also as a researcher and for his warm humanity and excellent contributions to aortic surgery.

It is still quite difficult to believe that we shall never see him again. We share your loss and send our deepest sympathy.

We hope that although he is no longer with us, we shall be able to follow the example he so ably set for us.

We offer our sincere thanks to all those who showed him kindness during his lifetime.

November 7, 2007

Shiaki Kawada, MD
Professor Emeritus of Keio University