

# GIORGIO A BRUNELLI,

## MD



Giorgio Brunelli was born in 1925 in Cellatica (Brescia, Italy), and graduated from the University of Parma Medical School in 1949. Dr. Brunelli did his speciality training in orthopaedic and plastic surgery, physiokinesiotherapy and radiology. He received a *honoris causa* Doctorate from the University of Breslau, Poland, in 1988. He was Professor of Orthopaedics and Head of the School of Specialization in Orthopaedics and Hand Surgery at the Brescia University Medical School until 1997.

Professor Brunelli has been on the cutting edge of orthopaedic and hand surgery in Italy where he organized the specialties of hand surgery in 1952 and of microsurgery in 1964, performed the first total hip replacement in 1964, and the first re-implantation in 1973. He has developed many surgical techniques and performed around 25 000 operations including 1 000 brachial plexus repairs. He has been doing research on paraplegia for more than 20 years and had the first paraplegic patient walking in 1997.

He has been a visiting professor and lecturer in many countries and has authored over 420 publications, including seven monographs, eight textbooks and 30 book chapters. He is a member of 28 scientific societies and Honorary Member of the Società Italiana di Chirurgia della Mano, and of the British, Australian and Venezuelan Societies of Hand Surgery. He is Founder Member of the Società Italiana di Chirurgia della Mano, Società Italiana di Microchirurgia, International Society of Reconstructive Microsurgery, Groupe d'Etude des Nerfs, and the International Society of Microsurgery. He is Past-President of Le Groupe pour l'Avancement de la Microchirurgie, Confédération Européenne des Services d'Urgences de la Main, International Society of Microsurgery, Honorary President of the Società Italiana di Microchirurgia, and President of the Association for Research on Spinal Cord Lesions. In 1980 the "Giorgio Brunelli Foundation for the Research on Spinal Cord Lesions" was established in Brescia, Italy.

Giorgio was President of the International Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand from 1995 to 1998.

Giorgio is married to Dr. Luisa Monini, a hand surgeon who participates in his work and research. They have five children, two are also hand surgeons. Giorgio's artistic excellence is demonstrated in his paintings (personal exhibitions) and photography (one published book). He has published a few fictitious novels which are based on accurate historical facts. He is an avid skier who won the regional university championship in 1948, and a strong swimmer (1/2 km at sea). He is a veteran car lover and collector of vintage cars. He has taken part in many veteran cars races, and has organized five "Microsurgical 500 Mile" races.

At the Seventh International Congress of the IFSSH in Vancouver, B.C., Canada in 1998, Professor Giorgio Brunelli was honoured with the title: "Pioneer of Hand Surgery"