We have lost Prof. Mehmet Alp Göksan, one of the former presidents of Turkish Association of Orthopedics and Traumatology (TOTDER) and the longest served editor-in-chief of Acta Orthopaedica et Traumatologica Turcica Journal.

Dr. Göksan was born in İstanbul in January 13th of 1931. He was graduated from University of İstanbul Medical Faculty in 1957 and started as a resident in Faculty's Paediatric Surgery and Orthopaedic Clinic in the same year. He spent one year of his residency in West Berlin Oskar-Helena-Heim Clinic with Deutsher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) scholarship. He finished his residency in 1961 and became an “Orthopaedic and Pediatric Surgery Specialist”. He received an invitation from Dr. Witt of Oskar-Helena-Heim Clinic and worked there until 1963 as an attending physician. In 1963 he returned from Germany and started to work in Istanbul University Medical School Paediatric Surgery and Orthopaedic Clinic. In 1968 he became an associate professor, which turned into a regular university associate professor in 1969. From 1974 when he became a professor until 1998 when he retired, he worked in İstanbul University Medical School. He published more than fifty articles in domestic and international medical journals between 1960 and 2000. He was accepted in German Orthopaedic and Traumatology Society in 1961 and SICOT in 1970.

He served eight times as the president of Turkish Association of Orthopedics and Traumatology (TOTDER) between years 1973–1981 and 1987–1995. The first time as the elected president of the Association, he managed to republish AOTT Journal again and guaranteed it’s publication life from that day on. He served as the chair of the publication committee from 1973 to 1981 and as the editor-in-chief from 1987 to 1995 giving an immense contribution to our Journal’s development.

Dr. Göksan was a true educator. He has added great value and contribution to the education of both the medical students and residents with developing teaching models and course materials in an era of limited sources. He has built the “Istanbul University Biomechanical Laboratory” and conducted until his retirement which served as a scientific ground to many experimental studies. Also he has given applied education of AO basic principles on these models. He had organised the monthly scientific meetings of the Association in 22.12.1966 and became the first presenter. He had also organised the first traditional meeting in the honour of Prof. Akif Şakir Şakar in 1973 when he became the president of the Association. He has arranged several meetings with Turkish German Orthopaedics and Traumatology Friendship Association contributing to the education of several colleagues both domestic and internationally.

Being as one of the pioneers of Sports Medicine and sports injuries in our country, Dr. Göksan was well known both as a physician and an athlete. He served in the General Assembly and Divan Board of Beşiktaş Gymnastic Club, in which he participated in it’s athletic team. He began to play tennis with his retirements and became a role model of lifetime sportsship.

He has been an example with his work discipline and care for archiving and documentation. The meticulousness in patient's physical examination and keeping patient records has been a role model for the residents that he worked with. With his enthusiastic ephemera collection, we had the opportunity to witness the changes in our field of medicine. From the collection that he donated to us, many of the implants can be seen in TOTBİD’s Orthopaedic Museum.

Dr. Goksan was the father of two children. His son, Suleyman Bora Goksan also became an orthopedic surgeon following his father's foot steps.

We are going to try to achieve more in the institutions built and improved by our beloved teache who passed away in 18.12.2018. Aiming this, we hope to be the disciples that he deserves.

In memoriam:  
Professor Mehmet Alp Göksan

Dr. Önder İ. Kılıçoğlu  
AOTT Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Mehmet Demirhan  
Former President of TOTDER