



Professor Kiyoshi Kaneda 1936-2022

It is with great sadness we have to inform that Prof. Kiyoshi Kaneda passed away on October 9, 2022, at the age of 86 years.

He was born in Fukushima Prefecture on September 7, 1936. He studied medicine at Hokkaido University School of Medicine, Sapporo, Japan. After graduating medical school in 1962 and completion of internship at Kyoto University Hospital, he started his orthopaedic career at Hokkaido University. After he completed orthopaedic residency, he was awarded a visiting clinical fellowship to learn scoliosis surgery and spinal instrumentation from Prof. John E. Hall at Harvard Medical School, The Children's Hospital Medical Center in Boston. He used to say "he was impressed with Prof. John Hall's surgical techniques for anterior thoracolumbar instrumentation surgery (Dwyer instrumentation), and was inspired to further develop the techniques in his own clinical practice".

After his visiting clinical fellowship, he returned to Hokkaido University and devoted to scoliosis and spine surgeries. In the early 1980's, he developed new anterior spinal fixation device ("Kaneda device") and clinically applied for the treatment of thoracolumbar spinal injuries. He served as Professor and Chairman of Orthopaedic Surgery at Hokkaido University from 1986 to 2000. As we all know, he was the father of spine surgery, especially developing anterior spinal fixation device ("Kaneda Device"), and thereby contributed to spine medicine throughout the world. Also, he realized early on the importance of spinal biomechanics to solve clinical problems. He worked with Prof. Manohar M. Panjabi and sent his spine fellows including young Dr. Kuniyoshi Abumi. His passion inspired his spine fellows to publish a lot of biomechanical researches.



Professor Kaneda at the ISSLS Annual meeting in Auckland, New Zealand 2010

He was a member of ISSLS since 1981, and attended the annual meeting every year. He served as President of ISSLS in 1996-1997, and received the ISSLS Wiltse Lifetime Achievement Award in 2004. Amazingly, even after making historic achievement, he read abstract book end to end and kept acquiring new knowledge throughout his life.

He was a great surgeon, a great researcher, and a great teacher for us. May his soul rest in peace.

Masahiro Kanayama