

## Publicação Oficial da Sociedade Brasileira de Pediatria

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**EDITORIAL** 

## Infinite legacy

Gil Simões Baptista, popularly known as Gil, left us, apparently while he slept, with discretion, just as he had led his professional life for the past 40 years. This united us and made us reflect, as he always naturally did with his simplicity and philosophy of life.

He was discreet but not absent or avoidant. He did not talk much, but he was objective, transparent, coherent, committed, and always thinking of the best viable, ethical, honest, and humane solution. He spoke with humility but with the boldness of those who do not talk thoughtlessly. He explained his reasons with clarity and reasoning but did not fight to convince.

Upon first contact, he might give the impression of excessive seriousness or grumpiness, but these characteristics dissipate with a little time of coexistence. He called his friends pangaré (ordinary) or jupiranga but did so with deference, love, and consideration. Not even the prosecutor, who found in him an ally in the fight against public health mismanagement that afflicts the general population, escaped this informality.

He never disrespected anyone. If he ever had enemies, they wasted time and missed the opportunity to be Gil's friend. He had a simple way of dealing with people, whether they

were patients, caregivers, undergraduates, medical residents, physicians, employees, or authorities, and knew when and how not to compromise.

In the places where he worked, including the Piedade Federal Hospital, the Federal Hospital of State Workers, the Brazilian Society of Pediatrics, and, in the last five years, the Regional Council of Medicine of the State of Rio de Janeiro, he implemented changes that were recognized and respected nationally.

He was entirely dedicated to public health patients and was an excellent professional, scholar, and researcher. He treated everyone with ethics and humanity, dedicating his life to care for children, adolescents, and their families and teaching and training physicians to exercise with dignity the most humane professional activity and the most respected by the population of Brazil.

Everyone comes to this world with the same virtues, but few individuals can develop them and be as successful as Gil Simões Baptista.

The *pangaré* has departed and left us missing him and with a large void and an infinite legacy.

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