

Dr Rafael Miñana  
(1935-2019)

Founding member of the ESE



The world of Endodontics is mourning the loss of one of its most well-known and respected colleagues and friend from Spain, Dr Rafael Miñana, who passed away on March 18<sup>th</sup> 2019.

Rafael Miñana (La Pobla Llarga, Valencia, 1935), first President of the Spanish Association of Endodontics (1978-1983), passed away after more than 40 years dedicated to dentistry. He leaves behind a legacy of three decades of active participation in the Spanish Association of Endodontics, which is currently presided by his son, Dr Miguel Miñana.

Rafael Miñana was licensed in Medicine and Surgery in 1960 by the University of Valencia, and in Stomatology in 1962 by the Complutense University of Madrid. After finishing his studies in Spain, he spent several years in the United States to continue his career and training while working in the Guggenheim Dental Clinic of New York, the Jewish Hospital of Saint Louis, and the Forsyth Dental Clinic of Boston, affiliated to Harvard University.

In 1967, he moved back to Spain to work in the Dental Clinic of the Hospital of the Torrejon Air Base. However, he constantly returned to the United States with scholarships from the Del Amo Foundation to study at the University South California in Los Angeles. It was then when he attended his first congress of the American Association of Endodontists, of which he was given an honorary membership in 2006.

Once he returned permanently to Madrid, he opened his own clinic and became the first dentist in Europe to dedicate his practice exclusively to Endodontics, a discipline that he

taught in countless courses throughout Spain. A large number of dentists and endodontists were influenced by Dr Miñana throughout those years.

He became a part of the group that founded the School of Stomatology of Valencia in 1975 and was an associate professor of Endodontics in the University of Valencia, as well as co-director of the Masters programme in Endodontics. He participated as a guest professor in several universities in Valencia such as La Catolica, Rey Juan Carlos, CEU and Literaria.

Raphael Miñana was a founding member of the European Society of Endodontology (<http://www.e-s-e.eu/about-the-ese/history.html>) and past president. He presided over the 3rd congress of the ESE that was celebrated in Madrid during 1987, and a world congress of the International Federation of Endodontic Associations (IFEA) in Madrid, 2001.

In 1999, he received the Santa Apolonia Award from the General Council of Professional Association in Spain, the most important award in dentistry in Spain. Additionally, he was recognized with the Gold Medal of the Scientific Merit of the School of Dentists of Madrid and the Rodriguez Carvajal Award of the Spanish Association of Endodontics.

Raphael is survived by his long-time companion and best friend Julia, three sons, Patrick, Belen, Miguel, six grandchildren and other family members and friends.

You can send condolences to: [endorminana@gmail.com](mailto:endorminana@gmail.com)