

IN MEMORIAM ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR PH.D. PHARM. MICHAELA PITEA

On the 30th of July 2017, in Cluj Napoca, passed away the one who has taken the place in the history of the personalities of the Academic Pharmacy of Cluj-Napoca, assistant professor PhD. Michaela Pitea, born Cherebețiu.

She was born in Blaj (Alba county) on 10 March 1930, in a family of Transylvanian intellectuals. She attended primary school and high school in her home town. After the abolition of the upper and middle schools in Blaj (1947), she moved with her family to Cluj, where she passed her baccalaureate exam (1949) and enrolled at the Faculty of Pharmacy (1949), which she graduated in 1953.

The outstanding achievements during the university studies recommended her for a research position at the "Institute for Chemical-Pharmaceutical Research" (I.C.C.F.) Cluj, where she worked under the leadership of the eminent teachers and scientists – Prof. PhD. doc. Ion Manta and Prof. PhD. doc. Ion Tănăsescu. In 1954, she held the assistant post at the Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry of the Faculty of Pharmacy in Cluj, where, under the leadership of the Prof. PhD. Pharm. Constantin Maiorovici and PhD. Pharm. Valer Arieșanu, carried out her 33 years of uninterrupted professional activity until her retirement in 1987.

In 1970, under the guidance of Prof. Dr. docent Theodor Goina, she defended her PhD thesis entitled "Research on some alkaloids in *Berberis vulgaris*" and gained the title of PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences. Between 1961 and 1993 she went through the stages of the university hierarchy: teaching assistant, lecturer and associate professor, publishing in the same time over 70 scientific papers in national and international journals, 6 pharmaceutical books (manuals and monographs) for students and other specialists in the field.

Between 1972 and 1987 she served as secretary for the Union of Medical Sciences Societies (Pharmacy section) in Cluj-Napoca. She organized a significant number of local scientific events, proving special organization skills but also high professional scientific competence by creating and selecting themes and programs.

The scientific personality of Associate Professor Michaela Pitea overlays with her work as a teacher of many generations of under- and postgraduate pharmacists. Among professors and students of the Faculty of Pharmacy, she was appreciated not only for her teaching and research skills, but also for her dedication in guiding her students in their cultural, social and moral formation, herself representing an undeniable model both in personal and professional life. Everything mentioned is certified by the words of those who have known her, written and spoken, at the time of her departure to the City of God.

She left behind not only a beautiful and useful scientific heritage and didactic experience, but also a social one - through her family - Daughters: Prof. PhD Anca Măniuțiu (Cluj-Napoca), physician PhD Voichița Țăruș (Bucharest) and her brother: PhD Colestin Cherebețiu (Mexico) - personalities of the Cluj academia and of medical world from Romania and abroad.

In the memory of those who have been her students, colleagues and friends will always remain the beautiful memory of the Associate Professor PhD Pharm Michaela Pitea, a leading personality of pharmaceutical higher education area, a pharmacist dedicated to the profession, school, family, and to the people she belonged to.

**Elena Curea
Ovidiu Oniga**