



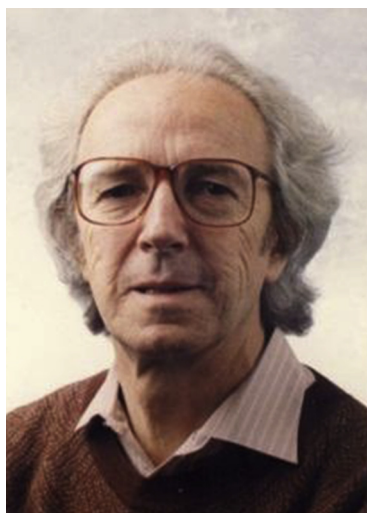
Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ybbrc



A Personal Anecdote of Ernesto Carafoli: Katsuhiko Mikoshiba



The key words that describe the personal character of Ernesto well are “enthusiasm”, “broad scientific curiosity”, “wonderful teacher”, “frank and straightforward character”, and “world leader”.

It was the last session in the evening of the last day of the International Meeting on “Second messengers & Phosphoproteins” held at Kobe City for 5 days in Japan in 1989. I presented our work in an oral session on the cloning, sequencing and expression of IP_3 receptor. The place was far away from the center, but Ernesto was present

in the audience. After my talk, Ernesto came up to me immediately and asked several questions. He told me he would give me an opportunity of presenting our work instead of him at the Calcium Binding Protein Meeting to be held in Banff. This was a wonderful offer for me at that time.

This was the beginning of my friendship with Ernesto. I was really attracted by his frank and straightforward character. I have always admired his youthful energy which, brushes off on the people surrounding him, giving great vision and hope to everyone. I know many young people who have been motivated by him. Ernesto has always been very supportive of young people, and many of them including me really appreciate his kindness. I remember that Ernesto and I had an opportunity to organize a Ca^{2+} signaling symposium in Montpellier at the International Meeting of the International Society for Neurochemistry, another wonderful experience. He was also exemplary as the chairman for my plenary lecture in the International Conference on Pharmacology held at Montreal.

A Japanese proverb quotes that “60 years old marks the end of a life cycle and establishes the beginning of another new one thereafter”. Hence, Ernesto is now at the prime of his second life! I believe that he will be even more active now to develop and explore newer areas in science, pouring yet again more energy and knowledge on to us. I wish him a healthy and long life.

Available online 9 April 2015