

# Ricardo Tito Amor (1934-2025)



## “THE AIR FILE”

**I loved him very much. This simple phrase sums up my relationship with Tito throughout my professional life.**

### As a Student

When I was a medical student, I took my final exam in Orthopedics and Traumatology with him.

The setting was the Hospital de Clínicas. The case, a patient with an ischial tumor—undoubtedly a challenging scenario for a student.

During that exam, I not only demonstrated what I had learned but also learned how to take an exam. Tito had a way of instilling calm, guiding the analysis of the case from the simple to the complex, and fostering reasoning.

### As a Young Professional

After completing my medical degree and finishing my residency, I earned a position at the prestigious Policlínico Bancario. There, I shared outpatient consultations and surgical procedures with Tito.

It was nearly impossible not to learn at his side—his approach reminded me of my father, Carmelo, whom I remember dearly: systematic study, a refined surgical technique, and absolute sincerity with his patients.

I collaborated with Tito in organizing an international conference and editing a journal (*Cirugía de la Pierna, del Tobillo y del Pie*). Through this, I came to admire his strengths as a leader—his meticulous planning and unwavering commitment to the established agenda.

### As Chief of Service

I did not hesitate to propose Tito as Consultant of the Orthopedics and Traumatology Service at Hospital Universitario Austral. By then, years had passed for both of us—Tito, the seasoned teacher, and I, now leading a service. A lifetime shared.

When I decided to present my work for full membership in the *Asociación Argentina de Ortopedia y Traumatología*, he guided me with wisdom and insight:

“I know you have well-documented cases of reconstructive knee surgery, but they were treated at another institution. Now, as a young Chief at Austral, you’ve managed to treat a series of patients requiring ankle reconstruction using a procedure rarely performed in our field. I recommend that you focus on that topic.”

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**How to cite this article:** Autorino CM. Obituary. Ricardo Tito Amor (1934-2025). The Air File. *Rev Asoc Argent Ortop Traumatol* 2025;90(2):205-206. <https://doi.org/10.15417/issn.1853-7434.2025.90.2.2132>

I followed his advice. The result was: *Symptomatic Osteoarthritic Ankle with Severe Joint Involvement: Arthroplasty by Modeling Resection and Joint Distraction.*

A trusted mentor—once again, thank you, Tito!

### “The Air File”

My father was wise: “*You will know your colleagues not by their résumés, but by their character and their daily virtues.*”

More meaningful than a Curriculum Vitae—a mere tally of degrees and certifications—is what I call the “Air File”: the sum of attitudes, gestures, and behaviors that make a person loved by all and envied by a few.

Tito and I shared a deep love for music, in all its forms.

Tango, in its lunfardo slang, offers a word that transcends “professor” and “master” when describing Tito: He will always be remembered as *troesma*.