

Doctor Nieves Juliana Atrio Mouriño, a legacy of love and dedication**Doctora Nieves Juliana Atrio Mouriño, un legado de amor y dedicación****Dra. Nieves Juliana Atrio Mouriño, um legado de amor e dedicação**Rolando Rodríguez Puga 

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"Death is the deepest memory."
Ernst Jünger

With deep sadness and an immense sense of loss, the medical and educational community of Camagüey bids farewell to Dr. Nieves Juliana Atrio Mouriño, an outstanding professor, physician and pioneer in the field of Dermatology in the province. Born on February 16, 1946, Dr. Atrio Mouriño left an indelible mark in every life she touched and in every corner of Cuban medicine, until her death on April 27, 2025, at the age of 79.

Dr. Atrio was not only an exceptional professional, but also a woman of solid principles, committed to the welfare of her patients and the training of new generations of physicians. Her story begins in 1962, when she entered the "Victoria de Girón" School of Medicine, a milestone that marked the beginning of a career dedicated to the service of public health. Graduating in 1968 as a Doctor of Medicine, she quickly became a fundamental figure in the training of specialists in her country, at a time when Cuba was in dire need of health professionals.

Her desire to contribute to improving the quality of life of Cubans led her to complete a vertical internship in Dermatology, specializing in a complex and often neglected field. Her first work assignment in Ciego de Avila, which was part of the Camagüey territory by that time, was a reflection of her dedication and devotion. There he provided dermatological care to patients from various communities, extending to Jatibonico, where his work made a difference in the lives of many.

At the “Manuel Ascunce Domenech” Provincial Hospital in her hometown, under the tutelage of the renowned Professor Llanos Clavería, Dr. Atrio began her specialty in Dermatology, where she demonstrated a dedication and passion that led her to become a reference in the area. During her career, Dr. Atrio understood that medicine transcends the mere application of techniques; she considered, it was an act of love and compassion towards those who needed it most.

Her vocation led her to fulfil international missions in Algeria and Angola in the 1970s and 2000s, respectively. In these countries, Dr. Atrio not only shared her medical knowledge, but also carried a message of solidarity and hope, representing Cuba with pride and humility. These experiences enriched her perspective and strengthened her commitment to medicine, as well as her desire to build bridges between cultures.

Starting in 1979, his work at the Provincial Center of Hygiene, Epidemiology and Microbiology of Camagüey marked a new chapter in his career. There he took charge of the Leprosy Program, where his tireless work not only helped eradicate this disease, but also promoted dignity and respect for those patients who were often the object of social stigma. This program became the focus of her thesis for her Doctor of Medical Sciences degree, successfully defended in 2013, a testament to her dedication to improving public health.

Dr. Atrio Mouriño was a woman of many accomplishments: she accumulated academic titles including First and Second Degree Specialist in Dermatology, Master in Infectious Diseases, as well as Doctor of Medical Sciences, Full Professor and Consultant. In addition, he guided many generations of students and colleagues through mentoring and advising specialty, master's and doctoral thesis. His academic legacy is reflected in more than one hundred research papers presented at congresses and more than twenty scientific publications in high impact journals.

Beyond her professional and academic achievements, Dr. Nieves Juliana Atrio Mouriño will be remembered for her human warmth, her always available smile and her ability to listen and comfort those who crossed her path. Her unwavering dedication not only transformed the health field in Camagüey, but also transmitted values of generosity and commitment in those who were lucky enough to know her.

Today, the corridors of the Provincial Center of Hygiene, Epidemiology and Microbiology and the classrooms of the University Of Medical Sciences Of Camagüey echo with the echo of her teachings and example. The medical community and the students who admired her feel a deep emptiness, but also the duty to honor her memory in order to continue her legacy of love and service.

Dr. Atrio is and always will be a shining light in the firmament of Cuban medicine. Her passion for Dermatology, her desire to heal and her indomitable spirit will live on in the hearts of all those who were inspired by her. As we say goodbye to this extraordinary woman, we promise that her legacy will live on in the training of future generations of physicians, in every effective treatment, in every act of compassion and in every smile that comes from healed patients.

Rest in peace dear Dr. Nieves Juliana Atrio Mouriño. Your life has been a beacon of hope and dedication; your legacy will remain engraved in our memories and hearts for centuries to come.

