Dr. Peter Hanedoes received his dental degree from the University of Utrecht in 1967. He opened a general dentistry practice in Apeldoorn and quickly became involved in local activities. He was a member of the Rotary Club, the County Sports Council and the County Board of Health.

Peter’s involvement in organized dentistry is devoted and most noteworthy. He chaired well over thirty different committees for the Dutch Dental Association, most notably the International Affairs Committee, the Dental Insurance Committee and the Nominations Committee. For nine years he was President of the Dutch Dental Association and for ten years served as Chairman of the Pierre Fauchard Academy, Netherlands Section. He served as a Council member of the FDI and Chairman of various FDI and WHO joint working groups. He was a member of the State Commission on International Dentists and was a deputy member of the General Health Care Council and President of the European Commission on Dentistry (EC Countries.)

For numerous years, Peter served as the Dutch delegate to the European Regional Organization and Dutch representative and delegate to the FDI General Assembly. He was a member of many FDI working groups, was an FDI Council Member from 1987 to 1990 and was Vice-Chairman of the organizing committee for the Amsterdam FDI World Dental Congress in 1990.

Peter was inducted into the Academy in 1985. He served as Regent for the European Section, Vice-President of Education, Vice-President for International Affairs and was the Chairman of the organizing committee for the highly successful First International Dental Congress in Vilnius, Lithuania, sponsored by the ADI. His continued support and effort to promote the Academy were acknowledged with the prestigious Hillenbrand Award in 1997 and was designated a Distinguished Fellow in 2006; one of only six ADI Fellows to hold this title.

Dr. Hanedoes was an Honorary member of the American Dental Association, the Dutch Dental Association and received Merit Awards from the Dutch Dental Association, the Lithuanian Dental Association and the Pierre Fauchard Academy. He was a Fellow of the International College of Dentists and the American College of Dentists. In 1996 he was Knighted in the Order of Oranje Nassau in the rank of Officer.

Peter was published in over ten different national and international dental journals, was the co-author of two books and lectured in multiple countries in three languages.

Peter was vigilant in all he did, not just in organized dentistry. He was instrumental in providing for the sports authority complex in Apeldoorn.
In memory of Peter Hanedoes ~ written by Dr. Dam Backer

There is a saying: ‘the older you get, the more you look like yourself’. This is something that reminds me of the ‘Ignoble price’. First it makes you laugh and, later, it makes you think.

With the passing away of Peter Hanedoes this comes to my mind because we, his friends, had a lot of laughs throughout our professional and private lives. A young and ambitious group, started already at the Dental School, removed under the leadership of Peter old and, certainly in our eyes, rusted structures in the Dutch dental world. The ‘young ones’ under the leadership of Peter worked their way up and at a relative young age he became chairman of the Dutch Dental Association. He held this position for nine years and, among his many other duties, fulfilled his job very successful. According to our laws he could not be re-elected.

In my eyes his mayor quality was to break-up the ‘fighting- relation’ between professionals, politicians and insurance companies. Break this yearly battle up in negotiations between equals. Relaxed, in good atmosphere, a listening ear, a good laugh and no knives on the table. Looking for what binds and not what separates in working together towards a win-win situation for all parties; Preferably our patients.

This ‘technique’ became popular in the Netherlands and was later called the ‘polder model’. (If you want to keep dry feet, you all have to pump the water out). Over the years his career became more international in European chairmanships, Colleges and Academies; More diverse also.

Activities like organizing the first International Dental Congress in Lithuania (ADI), sport commissions, care for the elderly, professional legal committees and, not to forget, his dental practice took lots of his time. The list of his duties and functions was endless.

Her Majesty Queen Beatrix honored him by making him an officer in the Royal House of Orange- Nassau. A very high honor indeed.

Also his care for his wife Rita, their three daughters and grandchildren was a great responsibility for him. In between that, he had all the time for his large group of friends. While getting older he became the grand statesman that lots of younger people turned to seeking advice. His fighting spirit became milder and wiser, pointing their noses to the heart of the matter.

He was a fighter however all through his life and it was a great shock to all of us that, early this year, he was confronted with a serious health problem. Treatment for this seemed hopeful but, alas, turned bad because of kidney failure. With a very large group we brought him to his grave remembering a most active life, lots of achievements and lots of work.

A man had passed away that we will not forget. Almost 72 years old and what is that? Too soon? Too late? Just in time? Who knows? It leaves an empty space in our heart that now fills with dear memories. But, boy, did we have a lot of laughs!