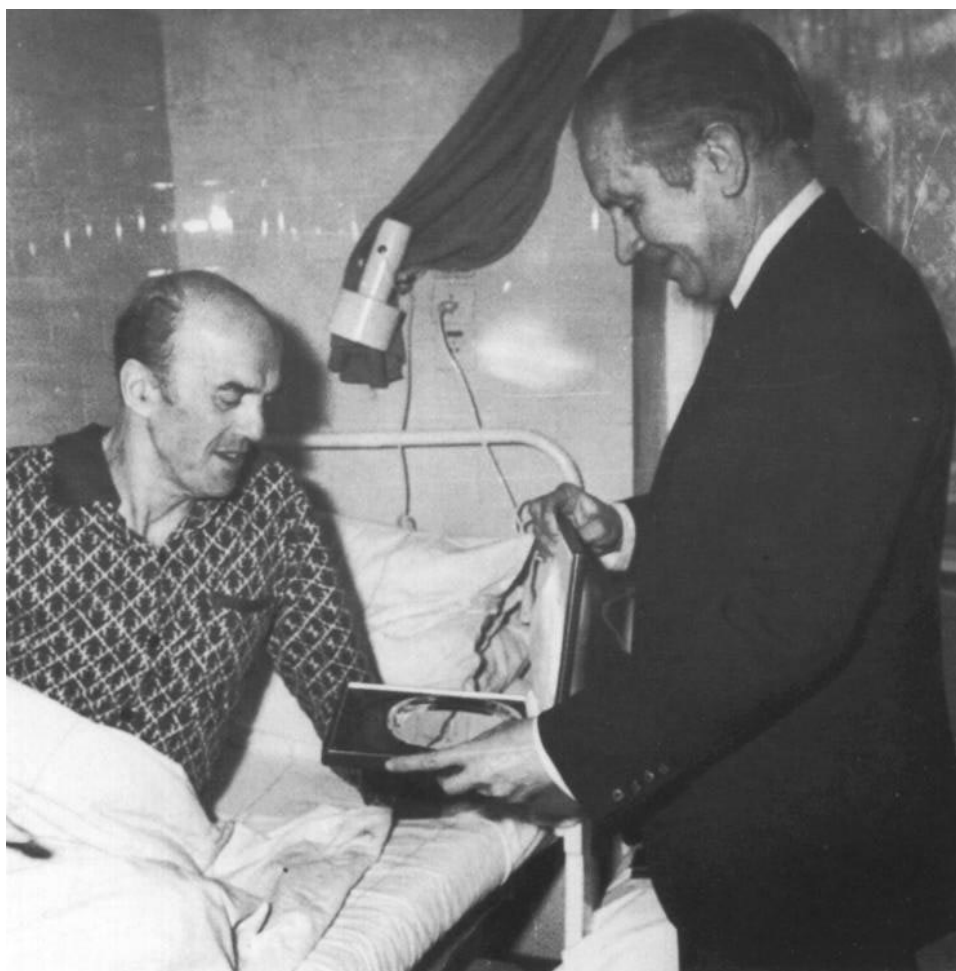


## Attribute to Arpad Csanadi

by *H.E Mr. Juan Antonio Samaranch*, President of the IOC

Arpad Csanadi, IOC member in Hungary, and Honorary Sports Director of the IOC since 1981, died on 7th March last after a short, cruel illness.

The President of the IOC, H.E. Juan Antonio Samaranch had been to visit him on 12th/13th February. A few weeks' later, on the 16th March, he was sadly to return to Budapest to attend the funeral of Arpad Csanadi.



“Arpad, my dear colleague,

May I write you one last letter? Although you have left on that final voyage, those close to you know that you will mock our sadness, Despite my sorrow at your loss, I offer you my thanks.

Thank you for having, with such consummate ease, embodied the ideals of youth, sport and dedication. In you were gathered the strength of the athlete, the wisdom of the historian, and all the “joie de vivre” of the Magyar people.

Thank you for your friendship. As you became a member of the IOC in 1964, you were there to welcome me two years later into the illustrious assembly of the Olympic Movement. Since then, we have worked together from Olympiad to Olympiad without ever any misunderstanding coming between us.

Thank you for all your many deeds and achievements, characterized by their straightforwardness, but nonetheless sound and efficient. The qualities which made you an international basketball player and a national football champion enabled you to uncover the real needs of the athletes and those who surround them -the trainers, coaches, judges, officials, journalists and spectators. Under your leadership, the Hungarian sports organisers welcomed champions from all over the world, under the best possible conditions. European and world championships followed one after the other in your country. Each one was a success. The atmosphere created at the European Athletics Championships in Budapest in 1966 by the officials of the organising committee which you headed still remains vivid in my memory, over sixteen years later.

Thank you yet again for having succeeded in combining your international commitments, which became increasingly absorbing and demanding, with the high responsibilities which you held at home in the service of the Hungarian National Olympic Committee.

For more than twenty years, you never failed to watch over the successful outcome of the sports policy of our country.

Thank you, on behalf of all our colleagues on the IOC, for your omnipresence at so many different commissions, in particular the Programme Commission, or rather “The Csanadi Commission”. You presided over it for fifteen years. The very success of the Games made this task a delicate one since it involved finding a balance between the desire shown by so many to increase the number of sports and events against the need to avoid the “gigantism” which was talked about so much.

Thank you for all your fruitful work, whether as a member of the Medical Commission, of which you were vice-President for nine years, or of the Executive Board, where you sat for five years, or, amongst others, of the Commission for the Protection of the Olympic Emblem, the Co-ordination and Supervising Committee for IOC/NOC relations...

For the last four years, as Technical Adviser and then Honorary Sports Director, your level-headed advice, always tactful and technically informed, warranted an even great endorsement of our Movement.

Thank you, Arpad, for your energy, your availability, your sense of harmony.

We will make no decisions in the future, without having first referred to you in the silence of our consciences.

Our affection surrounds Katalin, your wife, and Peter and Arpad, your sons, all three so well appreciated by, and close to, the Olympic community. I share their grief.

They miss you Arpad, and so do we”.



**In their sadness many people sent tributes to the memory of Mr. Arpad Csanadi to the IOC. We are publishing those of two of his friends.**

*"It is not /aid down when a man's life will end nor when the hour of death will come. "*

(Pindare, Olymp. Ode II, 30)

"How quickly this man of such great vitality has left us. Can we really believe that he who represented life, action and emotion, no longer lives?"

Our very dear and loyal contributor to the International Olympic Academy, Dr. Arpad Csanadi. has just been taken from us after a



1948, Arpad Csanadi (left) during a meeting of his club "Ferencváros" and a Mexican team.

terrible struggle. Disciples of the Olympic Ideal are forever robbed of an inspired idealist and a very kind, creative spirit.

We his Greek friends will always keep in our hearts the memory of his radiant personality.

*by Cléantis Paléologos,  
1st Vice-President of the IOA*

In the last interview I had with Arpad Csanadi - in his office, the office of the Vice President of the Hungarian Sports Office - the hour we spent together characterised his life. He was open-hearted, kind, polite, with an endless capacity for work.

"How much time do you have?" I asked. "As much as we need", he replied.

There were mountains of paper on his desk, for he was at the same time Vice President of the Hungarian Sports Office, Secretary General of the Hungarian Olympic Committee, and Honorary Sports Director of the IOC.

"How do you manage this tempo?" I asked. Work was as natural to his life as the sunrise every morning. "If I did not practice sports, I would not be able to do it", he said.

During a long conversation, he pulled another chair closer to him. "If you do not mind, I put my leg up here - it aches a little" he said. In thirty years, I had never heard him say such a thing. He was a real sportsman, with a distinguished career in football when Hungarian football was at his peak, and now played tennis, and swam. We spent no time on this remark, for how could we know that this was an SOS from a strong, trained body, the mark of a fatal illness.

When I was leaving, he stood up and there was pain on his face. But he came with me to the outside door, shook hands, and laughed, as he always did. I could not imagine then that I was seeing him for the last time.

*by Molnar Karoly,  
Hungarian journalist*