

Federico Beretta Obituary

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Dr. Federico Beretta on December 29, 2025, at the age of 84.

Federico was born on December 31, 1941, in Naples, Italy. He studied at the Università di Napoli, where he earned his Laurea in Chemical Engineering in 1969. In 1970, he began working as a researcher at the Istituto di Ricerche sulla Combustione, part of the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche. In 1978-1979, he served as a visiting researcher at MIT in Cambridge, USA, focusing on pollution reduction from power plants. He started his career as a researcher and became a senior researcher in 1988, later being promoted to research director in 1991. He held the position of chair of the institution from 1993 to 1994.

His research primarily focused on soot and pollutant formation in premixed flames, the optical diagnostics of atomization and combustion of liquid fuels, and reducing pollution from power plants. He was recognized worldwide as an expert on the environmental impact of power plants. In 1984, he received the Silver Medal from the Combustion Institute for the best paper presented at the 20th International Symposium on Combustion, which dealt with soot diagnostics in spray flames.

Federico co-founded the Mediterranean Combustion Symposia (MCS), a series of conferences designed to provide combustion scientists from the Mediterranean region with the opportunity to share cutting-edge research and promote collaborative research efforts.

Federico was a wonderful person, friend, and colleague, so dear to many of us at the MCS. We will remember him fondly always and hope that his efforts as a co-founder of MCS will long live for not only the world of combustion science but also as a means to bring our community from across the world together to several Mediterranean countries, which we have enjoyed since the first symposium in Antalya, TR. Our memories of him will last forever.



1st Mediterranean Combustion Symposium - Antalya, TURKEY, June 20-25, 1999. From left: Dr. Federico Beretta, Prof. Nevin Selcuk, Prof. Mostafa Kamel, Prof. Mohy Mansour