Editor's Note

I first met Ismail El-Shafei on one of his many visits to the United States while I was a junior neurosurgery resident. My interests in hydrocephalus and CSF dynamics were just beginning to blossom at that time and Professor El-Shafei's enthusiasm and encouragement to study those areas were infectious. The clear and practical understanding of CSF re-absorption that led to his remarkably innovative CSF shunting applications was like water in the desert to me. The development of the 'El-Shafei shunt' to the internal jugular vein and the ventriculo-superior sagittal sinus shunt are outstanding achievements. Such approaches to CSF drainage will become even more prominent both as we continue to search for more physiological CSF diversion methodologies and as we address the challenge of providing hydrocephalus care where advanced technology is difficult to apply. As *Pediatric Neurosurgery* marks Professor El-Shafei's passing, we must pause to celebrate his many singular achievements and be thankful for the inspiration that he provided to so many of us.

David Frim, Editor-in-Chief