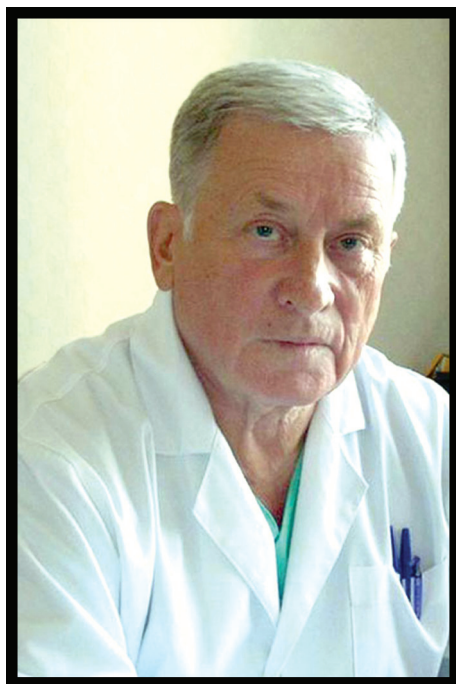


Anatoly Grigorievich Kaplunov (12.11.1936 – 16.03.2025)



Anatoly Grigorievich Kaplunov passed away on March 16 at the age of 89. He was an honored doctor of Russia and one of the first disciples of academician G.A. Ilizarov.

Anatoly Grigorievich Kaplunov was born on November 12, 1936. In 1960, he graduated from the Stalingrad Medical University (currently, the Volgograd State Medical University) and chose the specialty of trauma- and orthopaedic surgeon for his entire life. At that time, a delegation from the Kurgan Hospital for War Veterans arrived in Volgograd to recruit young specialists for a new department opened for a then unknown orthopaedic surgeon, and later the famous academician G.A. Ilizarov.

Young doctor Kaplunov moved to Kurgan and began working with Ilizarov. In 1969 he headed the new department for the study of compression-distraction osteosynthesis in the treatment of diseases and deformities of the musculoskeletal system in adults at the Kurgan branch of the Leningrad Research Institute for Traumatology and Orthopaedics named after Vreden. G.A. Ilizarov wrote about his disciple: "... Anatoly Kaplunov, a tall, imposing young

man, immediately won over the hospital staff. He won them over with his enthusiasm, diligence, good dedication to work, delicacy towards patients and staff..."

In 1972, Dr. Kaplunov successfully defended his candidate of medical sciences dissertation entitled "Treatment of pseudoarthrosis of the lower leg with the Ilizarov transosseous compression-distraction osteosynthesis". In his work, he summarized the experience of using the Ilizarov apparatus and method on a large clinical material for treating patients with the most complex pathology, proving its significant advantages compared to other methods of treatment.

Kaplunov A.G. continued his work at the Ilizarov Center for 20 years, being the deputy director for clinical activities for the last 10 years, and made a huge contribution to the development of the institution. Anatoly Grigorievich personally participated in the treatment of many famous patients of the Center: composer D.D. Shostakovich, Olympic champion V. Brumel, army general A.P. Beloborodov and others.

In 1979, Dr. Kaplunov returned to Volgograd, where he created and headed the regional orthopaedic center. Under his leadership, the Ilizarov method began to be widely used in the region. He headed the created by him center until 2006, but even after leaving his position, he continued to consult patients daily for many years. Anatoly Grigorievich cured thousands of patients and saved their limbs, and returned people to normal life.

In 2008, Kaplunov's book "Unknown Ilizarov: Sketches to a Portrait" was published, in which he tells us about his joint work with Academician Ilizarov: "...I had the rare fortune of being an acquaintance, a student, an associate, to a certain extent a friend and confidant person of this very extraordinary personality... He was a genius and at the same time an ordinary human, and I found myself involved in his Genius, in his human joys and weaknesses... Such personalities are a rare product in the historical process."

Anatoly Grigorievich Kaplunov himself was such a special person who left wonderful memories about him. His name will forever remain in our memory and in the history of the Ilizarov Center.

The staff of the Ilizarov Center and the editorial board of the journal "Genij Ortopedii" express sincere condolences to the family and friends of Anatoly Grigorievich.