

## **"Nature always takes revenge".**

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Natale Ferronato celebrates his Saint's day at Christmas. The 95-year-old naturopath from Ehrendingen, Switzerland, no longer treats patients, but devotes himself to research. The Corona crisis is no surprise to him.

He owes his first name to the fact that he was born shortly before Christmas. On 15<sup>th</sup> of December, Natale Ferronato celebrated his 95th birthday. "I owe the fact that I am still alive today almost entirely to natural medicine," the man from Ehrendingen is convinced. With his decades of experience, he has given important impulses to alternative medicine. But his thirst for knowledge is far from quenched. "My brain still works 24 hours a day. At night I dream, during the day I do research," he says in the living room of his flat, where he lives with his wife Maryse. Then he takes a huge, dried mushroom out of the cupboard: "I'm making a medicine from it. Actually, I only need a small piece, but the forester brought me the whole thing anyway."

Over the past decades, the naturopath has mixed more than 200 natural remedies and given many people relief or even recovery. The shelves in the living room are full of medical books in several languages. The books are his whole potential, says the autodidact: "But this is only a quarter of the original stock. I still have a library in Dubai, another in Geneva and one in France, where we spend several weeks a year."

### **The face as a mirror of health**

Ferronato has lectured all over the world. But Ehrendingen, Switzerland, has been the centre of his life since 1970 - albeit with a detour to Ennetbaden for several years, where he ran a healing practice. The couple returned in 2009 and now live near the Tiefenwaag roundabout, where the *Ferronato AG* company building stands. He founded his company in Schlieren in the 1950s and later expanded it in Ehrendingen. It specialises in tools for stone processing. In 1999 he hands over the business to his daughter Franca and her husband Georg Schlag - and attends to his vocation.

In addition to a keen intuition and powers of observation, Ferronato has enormous specialist knowledge. "The foundations of my work are exclusively the known laws of nature," Ferronato emphasises. He is the inventor of so-called pathophysognomics - a method for recognizing signs of illness in the face. The biotensor, a kind of divining rod, shows him the form of therapy, remedy and dosage through its vibrations.

However, the highly gifted man, who could easily remember hundreds of names, was prevented from studying medicine because of an accident: in September 1955, shortly before the Matura refresher course, he was hit by a Solex driver on his Vespa and suffered a severe brain injury. The result is post-traumatic epilepsy. Only after six years can he count to ten again. Today he can count to 300 - "without any guarantee of completeness", says

Ferronato. In 1968, the second stroke of fate: a mechanic incorrectly installs the new braking system in his car, and the father of a family crashes into a pile of concrete pipes without braking - he is paralysed on one side. He copes with both accidents mainly thanks to natural medicine. But of the twenty foreign languages he once spoke, only the accent-free Züri-Tüütsch and French, his wife's mother tongue, remain.

### **Filling Hotel Engel**

Ferronato also gave many talks at the hotel Engel in Ehrendingen. "At that time there were still cows in the stable downstairs. Over the years, at least 100 patients stayed at the Engel. One travelled from Norway in a wheelchair and returned home on foot. THAT is naturopathy!" he says enthusiastically. At a joint lecture with village doctor Hanspeter Faes, a key phrase was once uttered that is more relevant today than ever: "Nature always takes revenge!" Ferronato is convinced: "Corona is the result of eighty years of pharmaceutical medicine. You can't weaken the defences for decades and then expect the body to be able to defend itself against such a virus." His hope: "That a mixture of molecules will be found that will bring the defences back up to speed."

At 95, however, Ferronato is now taking it easy, treating only in exceptional cases and otherwise devoting himself to his research. Doing nothing is not an option, "even if my wife often reminds me that I should be retired," he smiles. He is grateful to have his spouse from Geneva by his side. The family has also had difficult times. After the second accident, Maryse Ferronato had to run the family and the company. "It was only a few years ago that I realised how much she achieved back then. Unfortunately, my three children didn't have much of me either," he regrets today.

Now Ferronato enjoys presenting his life's work to his grandson: Thousands of patient reports, letters from grateful patients and students. Recently the naturopath told him about a paralysed man who was able to walk again, and adds almost apologetically: "I can't help it that I am like that!"