

## Mr. Francisco Pons Alcoy, President of the business group Importaco, has passed away at the age of 75

Valencia (01/13/2018).- The business group Importaco informs with deep regret and sadness that their president, Mr. Francisco Pons Alcoy, passed away at the age of 75, after fighting strongly against a long illness.

Honest, friendly and a very human man, he stood out because of his business vision and his tireless determination leading the food business group, which became a national and international reference during his presidency.

Being part of the second family generation in charge of the business group Importaco, he guided the third generation of the Pons Family, who shared the direction of the corporation with him for the last years. His nephew, Juan Antonio Pons, who was until now vice president of Importaco and General Director of Importaco, will be the new president after the ratification of his charge by the Board of Directors.

Graduated as a Trade Teacher by the Escuela de Comercio de Valencia, D. Franciso Pons Alcoy leaded and founded several businesses such as the cooperatives Caixa Popular and Consum, and he was vice president of the Group EROSKI. Besides, in his long business career he has chaired the presidency of the AVE, the presidency of EDEM Business School and the presidency of ETNOR, among other positions. Furthermore, he was part of the Consejo Territorial of Telefónica in the Valencian Community and also part of the Consejo Territorial of Iberdrola.

All the members of his family want to sincerely thank all the displays of affection received.

The wake will take place along today in the funeral house ATRIUM (Tanatorio Crematorio Pista De Silla +34 902 12 03 30 – Atrium – Grupo ASV Servicios Funerarios. Carrer Rabisancho of Pista de Silla in Alfafar, Valencia).

The funeral will take place in the church of Santa Bárbara in Beniparrell (Carrer Marjal, 10. 46469 Beniparrell, Valencia).

## Mr. Francisco Pons Alcoy

Born in Beniparrell (Valencia) in 1942, Francisco Pons is one of the most renowned business leaders in the Valencian Community and Spain.

He combined his Trade Studies, which he did in the Escuela de Comercio de Valencia, with the family business founded by his grandfather: Importaco, where he started his business career.

For 25 years he took a break in his work with the family business and became one of the promoters of the social economy of the Valencian Community during the 70s. Particularly, being General Director of Consum (consumers cooperative) for more than 20 years and President of the organization for five years; founder and President of Caixa Popular (credit cooperative) for its ten first years and Vice President of Grupo EROSKI (distribution cooperative) stand out among many other cooperative projects in which he participated.

Back in the family business since the 90s, he was President of IMPORTACO GROUP, one of the most important food business groups of Spain.

From 2003 to 2011 he was President of AVE (Asociación Valenciana de Empresarios) - organization integrated by the main business leaders of the Valencian Community.

Mr. Pons chaired the EDEM business school - for which he was Vice President until the end of his days.

In the Valencian Community, he took part of the Consejo Territorial of Telefónica as well as the Consejo Territorial of Iberdrola.

In 2014 he was President of Etnor (foundation to promote the recognition, diffusion and respect for the ethical values which are implicit in the business activity and in the quality of public and private organizations and institutions).

## For further information:

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