

**Dear Monica and family,
Dear friends and collaborators of Guido,
Dear colleagues,**

I am very sorry that I cannot be with you to celebrate Guido today as originally planned: my thoughts are with you all. Guido was an unforgettable friend as well as a great scientist. All who knew him will treasure memories of his kindly manner and his human interest, as well as his penetrating gaze, his dry humour and his acute intelligence. We have all been touched and benefited from his presence among us.

The theorists among us will treasure Guido's manifold and profound theoretical contributions to so many aspects of our field: the strong interactions, the electroweak interactions, grand unification and most recently theories of neutrino masses and mixing. All of us have been deeply impressed by, and built upon, his profound insights into parton structure functions and vacuum polarization effects, to name just two towering examples.

The experimentalists among us will treasure the advice Guido provided over the years for the LEP, HERA, LHC and neutrino programmes. His helpful and selfless support has proved invaluable to the development of the CERN experimental programme, in particular.

It was my honour and privilege to be leading the Theory Division when Guido joined our permanent staff. He rapidly became a pillar of the Division, and later one of our most effective Division Leaders.

It was a tremendous shock to me personally to learn that Guido had passed on so abruptly. He leaves a giant space behind him, but also many great memories of an extraordinary human being.

I miss him.

**Kindest regards to you all,
John**