Vladimir Jurko Glaser died on 22 January, in his sixtieth year, after a serious illness. Born in Gorizia, Italy, on 21 April 1924, he studied at Zagreb, submitting a thesis in 1953 on work carried out in Göttingen under Heisenberg. In 1955 he became Head of Theory Division at Zagreb’s Ruder Boskovic Institute, and in 1957 he came to CERN, where he was until his death one of the key figures in the Theory Division.

As a physicist he was deep, cultured and highly mathematical. His work in rigorous theory maintained a contact with reality, establishing a bridge between the abstraction of axiomatic field theory and the description of elementary particle collisions. In several basic papers, he set up the analyticity properties required for the use of dispersion relations in proton-proton and proton-antiproton collisions, the point of departure for the use of asymptotic theorems on maximum growth of cross-sections and comparison of particle-particle and particle-antiparticle collisions. He extended these results to production reactions. The recent use of antiprotons in the ISR and the SPS provides spectacular experimental proof of these results. Other work made important contributions to perturbative renormalization theory.

Jurko Glaser was interested in many fields: in quantum electrodynamics, on which he wrote one of the first modern texts; on field theory models, particularly that of Thirring; and a deep study of the Schrödinger equation, on which some of his work remains unpublished. His last work, on a ‘spin glass’ model, displays once more his remarkable mathematical prowess.

An exceptional teacher, some of his students became close longtime collaborators. A cultured man with widespread interests, warm-hearted and full of ideas, he had many friends. He leaves a memory not only of a great physicist, but of a man of great spirit and generosity.