Werner Ruckstuhl
1952-1999

The sudden death of our colleague Werner Ruckstuhl has deeply shocked our scientific community, particularly at NIKHEF, where he worked for the last 10 years.

Werner, Swiss born and ETH-Zürich educated, did his PhD on muonic atoms, for which he was awarded the ETH medal. Via Caltech, where he studied lepton universality at the PEP ring at SLAC, and Geneva University as a member of the L3 team at CERN's LEP, he first came to NIKHEF in 1990 to set up the physics analysis for the Dutch DELPHI group at LEP. His interests soon returned to B physics - having pushed for a B factory at the Swiss PSI lab. Via the GAJET proposal he led NIKHEF into the LHCb experiment at CERN's LHC collider and became the Dutch team leader.

Werner was an excellent, all-round experimental physicist. His catching enthusiasm, in combination with his great sense of humour, stimulated many young physicists. He also made categorical choices - he came to NIKHEF, moved with his family to the Netherlands and became a Dutch citizen.

His absence is strongly felt not only at NIKHEF, but also at CERN and DESY.

Ger van Middelkoop