



Mircea CRISTU

21.04.1932 – 01.02.2013

In the first day of February 2013 Mircea Cristu passed away after a short illness. He was part of the first generation of Romanian nuclear physicists, whose life and destiny were identical with the history of the Institute of Atomic Physics at Magurele-Bucharest. They were the true founding fathers of modern science in Romania. These people were enthusiastically about science, nuclear, modern and quantum physics, Mircea among the most ardent of them. These generations believed in the power of reason, in the benefits of the scientific knowledge, in truth, justice and social welfare. This belief, together with the communist party, their devotion, work and great sense of social responsibility made them to erect a modern, scientific Romania. This is a great life achievement for which they deserve our respectful gratitude; Mircea among them, as one of their most prominent members.

Mircea was always studying, reading or writing; he loved books. When relaxing, he was listening music - he was a great connoisseur. He loved to talk about words, languages, history, philosophy, mathematics; he used to tell everybody about the benefits of an orderly life, physical exercises, eating vegetables. He loved physics and knew a lot of amusing stories about physics and physicists. He loved theoretical physics almost with piety, with awe. He would not have ever missed a seminar of theoretical physics. He was probably the only Romanian who participated, in the 50s, in the Moscow seminar of the great Landau. There, Mircea was saying (though it could be apocryphal), only criticisms were allowed. Although a very sharp mind, he would never have criticized a fellow human being. He respected life and people to the highest, ultimate degree. We lost a dear friend. We miss forever his healthy jokes, his great sense of humour, his vast culture of physics.