

1996

## Donald J. Montgomery

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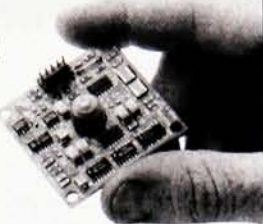
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a protest against the military dictatorship in Argentina. For the next nine years he lectured at the International Center for Theoretical Physics in Trieste, Italy, at several universities including those of Stasbourg, Paris and Turin, and at CERN. Returning to Brazil, he became a full professor at the CBPF in 1977.

**J. LEITE LOPES**

*Brazilian Center for Physics Research  
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## Donald J. Montgomery

Donald J. Montgomery, long a research professor at Michigan State University, died suddenly from a stroke on 19 January at the age of 78.

He received his BS in chemical engineering in 1939 and PhD in physics in 1945, both from the University of Cincinnati. He was an assistant professor at Princeton University in 1945-46, and then spent a couple of years in the UK, where he was a scientific liaison officer for the Office of Naval Research in London and also a visiting physicist at the University of Manchester. Subsequently, he worked for the army as a civilian physicist at the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland until 1950, when he joined the Textile Research Laboratory in Princeton, New Jersey, as a physicist. In 1953 he moved to Michigan State University, where he was research professor of physics and research professor and chairman of the department of metallurgy, mechanics and materials science from 1966 until 1988.

While at Michigan State University, Don spent several years at other universities as a visiting professor or research physicist, as well as one year at NASA headquarters in Washington, DC.

Don's professional interests covered a very broad spectrum, including quantum electrodynamics, cosmic rays, static electrification, isotopic mass as a probe for solid-state physics, biomagnetism and analysis and assessment of the social consequences of technology.

To build up a lifetime scientific career during the years following World War II required great professional flexibility remarkably like that being recommended to today's new PhDs and especially a readiness to embrace "real world" problems. Don had a true gift for that type of thinking. For example, his interest in the physics of static electrification stemmed from his involvement in xerography.

Don was an exemplary mentor. His greatest strength was his ability to deal

with other people. His humor, sharp wit, deep concern and intellectual curiosity were a leavening agent for all his friends. He was one of the kindest, most sociable and truly concerned individuals that many of us have known.

**SITARAM JASWAL  
JOHN HARDY**

*University of Nebraska  
Lincoln, Nebraska*

**PAUL M. PARKER**  
*Michigan State University  
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## Roberto Mendel

Roberto Mendel, a well-known theorist and phenomenologist in the elementary particle physics community, died tragically at the age of 40 in an automobile accident on 18 August 1995. He had just returned from a year's sabbatical at the Technion—Israel Institute of Technology.

Roberto was born and raised in Santiago, Chile, and showed exceptional academic ability at an early age. He received his bachelor's degree in physics from the Technion in 1977 and his PhD degree in physics from MIT in 1982 under the supervision of Kerson Huang. He held postdoctoral positions at McGill University during the next five years, where he worked closely with Bernard Margolis, who passed away early last summer. He accepted a faculty position at the University of Western Ontario in 1987, where he became a professor of applied mathematics.

Roberto soon established a reputation as a caring and effective teacher, and as a scholar with a broad knowledge of physics. His excellent physical intuition and maturity of judgment commanded the respect and admiration of his research collaborators. The origin of particle masses and the violation of time-reversal symmetry were among the fundamental issues that he tackled, and the phenomenological issues he addressed included rare decay processes and the precision modeling of subatomic particle decays. His PhD thesis was perhaps the earliest demonstration of how the then-unknown top quark could be responsible for electroweak symmetry breaking.

Those of us who knew him remember Roberto as an extraordinarily decent and good human being, as well as a most talented researcher on the threshold of an outstanding career.

**VICTOR ELIAS**

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