

Dear Yoshiko, dear Takeda family



It was with great sadness that we received your news of the passing of our dear friend Yasushi Takeda. We deeply regret that he has already had to say goodbye to this life. For me, with him also goes a friend with whom so many scientific, inventive, ideological and also private thoughts and visions were shared and further developed.

Since 1993, when we met at PSI, we have worked constructively on combining our scientific areas of expertise as well as our two countries of origin and their cultures, which made us friends. Joint research, joint ambassadorship for Hokkaido University in Sapporo, mutual exchange of students and doctoral students as well as mutual family visits and excursions allowed us to develop a warm relationship.

Many of my students and doctoral students have also come to appreciate Yasushi as an inspiring scientist, valuable person and advisor.

My family and I will also miss Yasushi's visits as a "Matcha ambassador", who always gave us delicious Matcha products whenever he visited us. We were already looking forward to welcoming Yasushi and you, dear Yoshiko, back to Hemishofen and Ticino in the summer of 2025. - Unfortunately, fate has put a stop to this expectation.

What remains are our memories of a valuable colleague, scientist, person and friend who was valued by all of us. We will remember him as we were able to experience him and honor his memory.

Dear Yoshiko and Takeda family, thank you very much for making it possible for us to take part in the memorial service for Yasushi Takeda via the Internet. It was an honor and a matter close to our hearts.

Whenever we can be of any help to you, please let us know. Whenever your journey takes you to Switzerland, please feel most welcome to visit us, also to talk about Yasushi and think of him together. We, for our part, will be happy to say hello to you and visit Yasushi's final resting place the next time we visit Japan.

Last but not least, I would like to mention that I and my family believe that there is a next stage of spiritual and mental existence after our death, and that there will be a reunion with our loved ones in some form that we can neither describe nor understand on our current, earthly level of existence. - As scientists, Yasushi and I have learned to marvel so often that we considered the existence of a higher power to be certain.

With heartfelt condolences.

Erich Windhab with Marita, Laura and Lars-Eric