

Renato Capocelli
May 3, 1940 - April 8, 1992

Professor Renato Capocelli, chairman of the Computer Science Department of the University of Rome "La Sapienza" and IEEE Fellow, died in April in Rome Italy at the age of 52. His death came as a great shock to all who knew him.

Renato established himself in the field of information theory. He published 76 papers about various kinds of codes, entropy series, text compression, semigroups, communication over noisy channels and Fibonacci search. Renato contributed significantly to the building of Computer Science in Italy. For eight years he chaired the Department of Computer Science of the University of Salerno, turning it into one of the best in Italy. He recently moved to Rome, where he founded and chaired the Computer Science department.

Many of us are indebted to Renato for organizing international conferences. Renato loved his home in the Campania region and contrived to have those meetings in the gulf of Naples where he infected one and all with his love for his native region, its food, wine and songs. Sequences89 and Sequences91 were held in Positano Italy. They served as excellent forum for fruitful exchanges of ideas among scientists from many mathematical disciplines. See Mike Luby's report on Sequences89 in SIGACT News 20,1 (Winter 1989), pp. 40-42 and Jim Storer's report on Sequences91 in SIGACT News 22,4 (Fall 1991), pp. 20-22.

Renato had planned to organize Sequences93. We hope to go on and hold it next year in his memory. We send condolences to his wife Rita and his two children Maria-Vittoria and Salvatore.

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