

1.1 A Glimpse of the Flood of Emails after the Sad News Was Spread

"I would like to express my sympathy to his wife and family and tell them that I share their grief. I have met Da twenty years ago and I have always been impressed by his humanity, his empathy with his community, in addition to his great scientific achievements. I will always remember the last time I have seen him, last year in Chengdu, with his wife and sons, in so friendly moments. I will miss him a lot."

--- Professor Bernadette Bouchon-Meunier

"Please accept my heartfelt condolences on the unbelievable death of Da Ruan, also in the name of my colleagues at Springer in Heidelberg. Working and communicating with him always has been a great pleasure and honour for me and led to a large number of successful publications, combined with his outstanding friendliness and charming attitude. He was a wonderful person- we will very very much miss him!"

--- Professor Thomas Ditzinger

"I am writing this letter to express deep condolences on the untimely pass-away of Da Ruan. He had always been an excellent scientist to work with. He was a very true person with a golden heart and has always been there for support in different aspect. Da will be sorely missed. We know that there cannot be any amendment to the loss which has been incurred by Lord. Let this letter bring some relief in the painful times. God Bless you all."

--- Professor Hamido Fujita

"I am so sorry! I have known him for so many years and have always enjoyed all professional and personal contacts with him. I have also known his widow for whom I feel so sorry in particular because their children are still so young. He has been one of the most visionary people in our field who have always known how to combine theory and practice. We will miss him very much!"

--- Professor Janusz Kacprzyk

We lost a man of kindness, helpfulness and excellent research. He never forgot anyone anywhere; every friend was always in his mind. We will miss you, Da Ruan!"

--- Professor Cengiz Kahraman

“Dear Da, on behalf of all my colleagues I can tell you that saying goodbye to you is very hard. We will miss you so much: your true friendship, your optimism, your unselfish devoting with respect to all your commitments. Last Tuesday I went to say goodbye to your body and I saw your face expressing pride as it was saying: “I did my very best, please continue my work and be friendly to each other”. Thank you, Da, for giving us so much love and friendship.

--- *Professor Etienne Kerre*

“I learned a lot with you, my dear Da, but I never forget is your smile, your winks, your friendly advice and your kind words.”

--- *Professor Victoria Lopez*

“Well established researcher and internationally highly recognised expert in computational intelligence and decision making, Da Ruan launched in 1994 the FLINS conferences, successfully held since then. I will miss Da Ruan as one of my very best friends, a wonderful person and a hard worker, always kind and helpful.”

--- *Professor Javier Montero*

“It is very difficult to find the right words to express all my feelings in this very sad moment. I will bring with me forever the memory of Da, his kindness, his openness, his availability, his correctness and his valuable scientific contributions.”

--- *Professor Gabriella Pasi*

“This is terrible news. I still remember talking and laughing with Da in San Francisco in May. Da - you will be missed a lot!”

--- *Professor Marek Reformat:*

“The passing away of our friend Da is indeed very sad news for all of us who knew him and had the pleasure of working closely with him. My thoughts go to his family and his nearest friends.”

--- *Professor Davide Roverso*

“I still cannot believe that it is true. Da was so energetic, full of brilliant ideas, and enthusiastic about his research, teaching and collaboration. He was emailing us just a few weeks ago. I can still picture Da's vivid presentation, and hear his energetic voice in discussions and debate. It is a huge loss to all of us.”

--- *Professor Dong-Ling Xu*

“It has been a so shocked and terrible news about Da! I cannot believe it was true. I still can remember clearly the first time we met each other in a conference in USA, from that moment, we have been very good friends for many years! He is a so nice person and so excellent scientist! He only became 50 years, a terrible loss to us all! Da will be missed by everyone who knew him. Our thoughts and prayers will go with him. My sincere and solemn condolences to Da' family.”

--- *Professor Yang Xu*

“I was very saddened to hear of the death of Da Ruan. I warmly remember the meal on the beach in Sydney with Da, Da enjoyed himself very much on that occasion. I am glad I had the opportunity to see Da at the conference in San Francisco....”

--- *Professor Ronald Yager*

“No word can express our shock at the sad news. I still could not believe that Da will no longer be with us since I was told the terrible news last night. At a meeting at York University today, Dong-Ling and I shared this sad news with colleagues with shock and disbelief. Da is our dear friend and a most prolific and respected researcher worldwide. We just discussed issues via email a few weeks ago when I was in Australia attending the 2011 IFORS conference. He already accepted our invitation to visit Manchester later this year. His sudden departure is a huge loss to our research community in general and to our long term collaboration between SCK and Manchester in particular. He will be remembered by us forever. Our deepest condolence goes to Greet and the two children. At this most difficult time, we all share the terrible loss of Da.

--- *Professor Jian-bo Yang*

“I was deeply shocked and saddened by the news that Da Ruan suddenly passed away. It is an irreparable loss for the fuzzy logic community world wide.”

--- *Professor Lotfi Zadeh*

“It is really a very very sad news. I can not believe my eyes when reading these words. I highly appreciate Da for his intelligence and kindness to all his friends. We even discussed on our future collaboration three weeks ago before my trip to China. We need to do something together for him. We will remember Da forever...”

--- *Professor Xianyi Zeng*