

# Robert Leroy Thews

## **Hard Probes 2013**

5 November 2013

Stellenbosch, South Africa



## **Highlights of his career:**

**1968 Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

**1968 Post-Doc University of California, Berkeley**

**1969 Post-Doc University of Rochester**

**1970 Adjunct Professor University of Arizona, Tucson**

**1977 Professor University of Arizona, Tucson**

**1977 Rutherford Lab and U of Bielefeld**

**1981 - 1984 DoE Washington**

**1986-1992 Head of Department UofA**

**November 6 2012**



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As a Professor Emeritus of Physics, an author, a scholar, researcher, wine enthusiast, culinary connoisseur, musician, and golfer, Bob, with his wife, Johnnie, passionately explored and combined his varied interests in life with his love of travel. Through the world of physics they developed an international community of friends that remain today. Diverse interests fed Bob's soul and thus enriched the lives of those he knew. Bob's fascination with wine and the technical art of winemaking was the link to his part ownership of Terra Rossa Vinyard in the 1990's and to many lasting friendships with the members of the wine and dinner group that he so enjoyed. Until only recently,



Dinesh Srivastava

Let me come to Bob Thews.

While several other members of the team had problems with my rustic accent, he for one and his darling wife- Johnnie did never misunderstand me, perhaps as they were extremely well travelled and more so as perhaps they were more attentive than others and had had several students from my part of the world. I re-drew several of the graphs on our Drell-Yan paper and re-checked several of the calculations. Yes, it was fun talking to him, with his keen sense of humour, with his easy laughter which put me immediately at ease. He had this fantastic sincerity which made me feel, that I could confide in him and he would never betray the confidence.



I never had the fortune of having had him as a teacher, but I could see that he could guide the students find the answers themselves. During discussions he asked questions, which made you think and which led you to reach the right conclusions. I always had the feeling that he already knew the answers to the questions which we were struggling with and he was just indulging us. His knowledge about almost all subjects that came up for discussions was phenomenal. Both he and Johnny were extremely kind to my wife when they met her briefly at one of the Hard Probe meetings in Trento. Johnny is an ardent and thoughtful reader and has read enormous number of books and we can sit and discuss literature for hours. She also found time to read my amateurish attempts at short-story writing and I was surprised to find that she had such complete grasp on a subject matter, a village in India, so very alien to her. I will always cherish the time I have spent with Bob and Johnny and I wish all the best to Johnny.

Dinesh Srivastava, 22.10.2013, Kolkata

