This issue of Advanced Nonlinear Studies is dedicated to Professor Donato Fortunato, who is a member of the editorial board of this Journal. The papers in this issue were solicited for this purpose and the authors have dedicated their contributions in recognition of the fact that he is now 60 years young. Professor Fortunato is an outstanding mathematician and an inspiring professor and colleague. His research, particularly his joint work with Professor Vieri Benci, has inspired and influenced the works of many mathematicians around the world. I have been quite "fortunato" to have enjoyed a most pleasant and fruitful interaction and

- Shair Ahmad

Donato Fortunato, Dino to his friends, was born on November 24, 1945, in Torchiarolo, a little town close to Brindisi (Italy). He received his degree in Physics at the University of Bari in 1969 and wrote his first papers in Theoretical Physics under the supervision of F. Selleri. In the early 1970s, at the request of G. Arnese and M. Troisi, he started teaching Mathematical Analysis at the Faculty of Engineering. During this period, he also started studying elliptic problems in weighted Sobolev spaces. Soon afterwards, he met V. Benci; this was the beginning of a deep friendship and a fruitful scientific collaboration. They visited the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences in New York, working under the supervision of L. Nirenberg.

Full professor since 1980, he has been giving classes in Mathematical Analysis and Nonlinear Analysis to the mathematics students of the University of Bari. His love and enthusiasm for both research and teaching; his gifted mathematical intuition; and his articulate, clear, and incisive manner of conveying his ideas have served as an incentive and motivating factor in the development of mathematicians and the establishment of a school of Nonlinear Analysis at Bari.

During his career, he has supervised numerous graduate and Ph.D. theses of young students. Many of them, touched by his love for mathematics and his dedication to the education of his students, have embarked on university careers themselves: A. Salvatore, A. Masiello, L. Pisani, A.M. Candela, M. Lazzo, A. Germinario, S. Cingolani, R. Bartolo, P. D'Avenia , G.M. Coclite, A. Pomponio, and A. Azzolini. He has also been interacting and collaborating with other mathematicians in Bari, such as P. Bartolo, A. Capozzi, C. Greco, E. Mirenghi, M. Tucci , G. Vannella, T. D'Aprile.

His productive collaboration with V. Benci has, over the years, resulted in the discovery of many important and original mathematical ideas in areas such as critical point theory for problems at resonance, geodesics and periodic trajectories in Lorentzian manifolds, topological solitary waves in three space dimensions, and solutions of the coupled Klein-Gordon-Maxwell or Schrödinger-Maxwell equations. Besides the continuous scientific collaboration with V. Benci, D. Fortunato has also collaborated with many other mathematicians such as V. Capasso, V. Del Prete, G. Cerami, M. Struwe, G. Palmieri, M. Mininni, S.P. Wu, E. Jannelli, D.E. Edmunds, and F. Giannoni.

His great passion for mathematics, his formidable talent and dedication in teaching, and his total commitment to research have made Professor Dino Fortunato a leading figure in the mathematical community, at the national as well as the international level.

Happy Sixtieth, Dino!

AD MAJORA