

Rohini Godbole: 12.11.1952 - 25.10.2024



Sunil Mukhi
IISc Bengaluru, March 14, 2025

I'll start with a brief timeline of 2024.



30 January 2024: Rohini wins a motorcycle



19 January 2024: After dinner at a cafe on New BEL Road



27 March 2024: With her sisters and nieces: family function

16 June 2024:
Returned to
Bangalore after a
month in Europe



20 June 2024:
IISER Kolkata
convocation





23 June 2024: After lunch at Justbe

18 July: Rohini is admitted to hospital in Bangalore.

29 July: Discharged from hospital.

3 August: Travels to Pune with four family members.

10 August: Messages me that her sister Kalpana got an award!

17 August: “Your visit is approved”. But I couldn’t go (‘flu).

31 August: I visited her at Kalpana’s home in Pune. She was thin, but cheerful and optimistic.

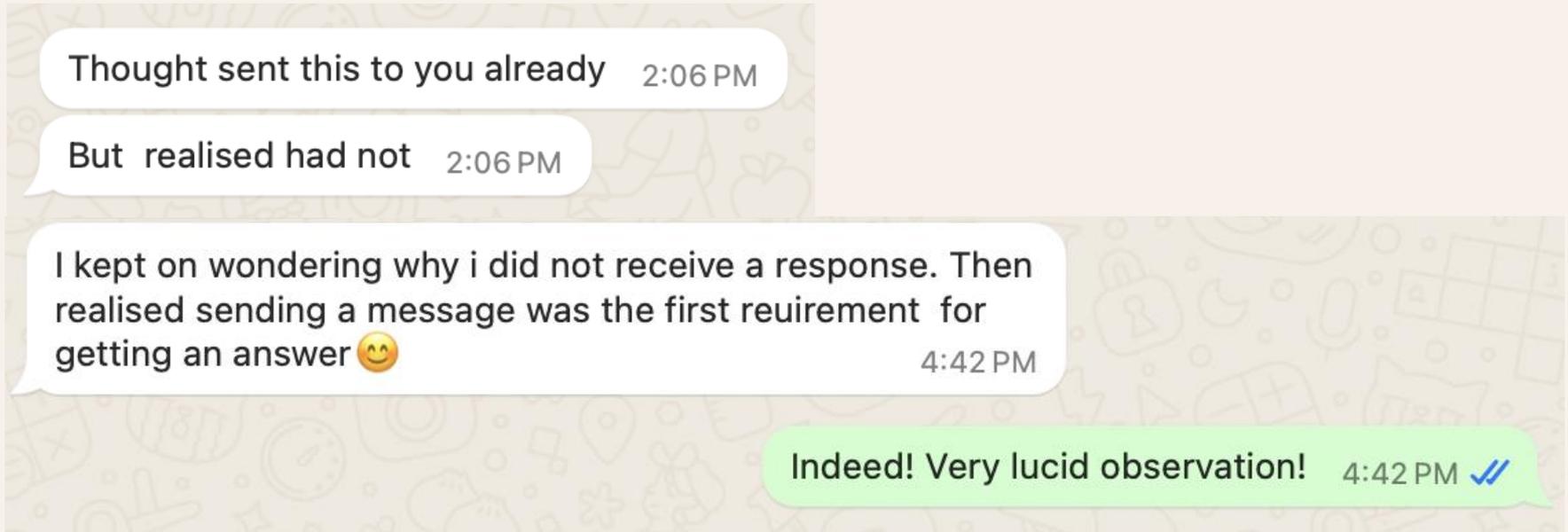


Good you could visit 9:45 PM

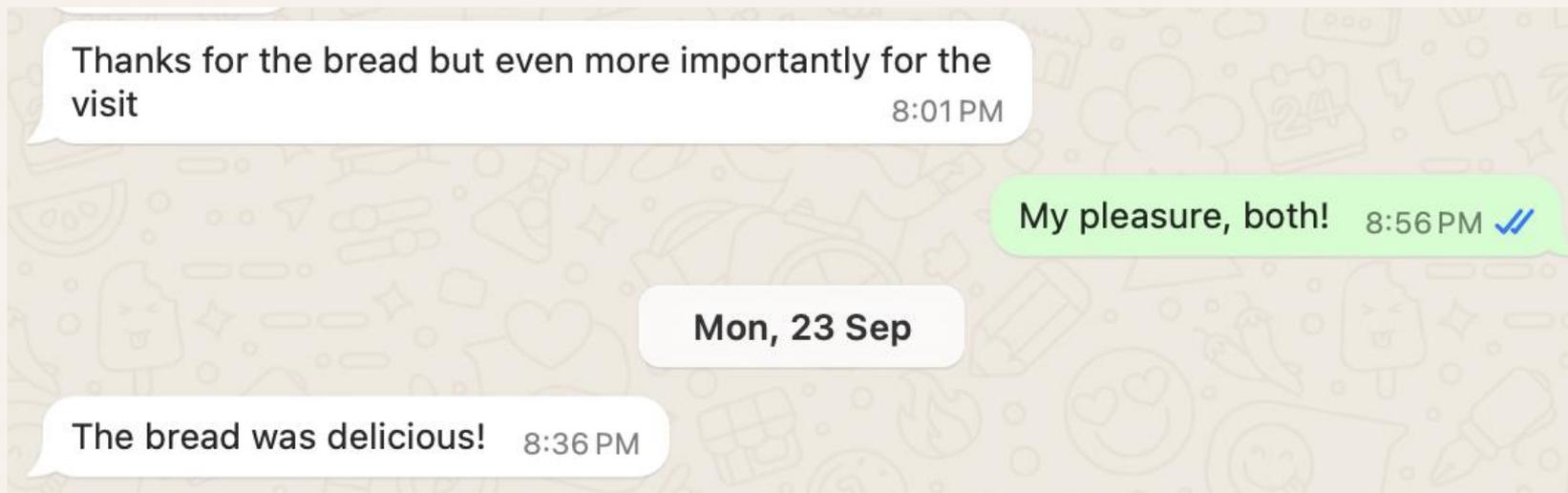
Enjoyed it very much 9:51 PM ✓✓

Will come again soon 9:51 PM ✓✓

6 September: She visited her cardiologist, got a positive report.



22 September: I visited her again. It was to be our last meeting.



She passed away on October 25.

Now let's go back to 1976.



Stony Brook Physics Department, 1977



Stony Brook Physics Department, 1978



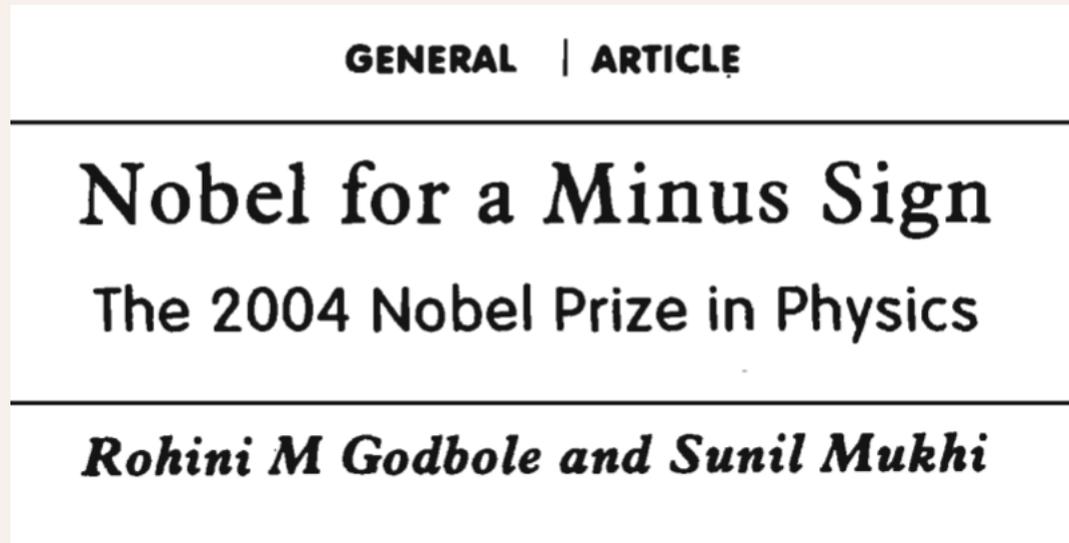
I first met Rohini in August 1976, when I joined Stony Brook as a Ph.D. student.

- We meet for the first time.
- The “famous” dinner invitation.
- Encouragement about qualifying exams.

1979: She returns to take up a post-doc at TIFR. The impact on us when we saw her first preprint from there.

1984: I joined TIFR as a post-doc. She was at Bombay University. The “commuting” period.

- Co-authored a popular article on asymptotic freedom:



- Committee work. The famous “can you ...” mails. Balance and breadth.
- Advocacy for Women in Science. Again, balance and breadth.
- Rohini has the last word: Short video clip from an online interview about her scientific work.

