



Tribute to a Stalwart of the Caribbean Veterinary Community:

A Kind, Gentle, Wise and Remarkable Soul

Suriname - June 6, 2025

The Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA) honours the life and legacy of a truly exceptional individual; Pastor was someone whose compassion for Veterinary Epidemiology was only matched by his deep care for humanity. A Veterinary Epidemiologist of rare dedication and insight, he was a quiet force in the world of public health and disaster response, one whose impact will be felt for generations to come.

On a personal note, as the CEO of CAHFSA, I must share these few lines in memory of an exceptionally brilliant scientist. I first met Pastor as Veterinary Students at the Instituto Superior de Ciencias Medicas de La Habana, Cuba. He was always humble and kind. He was the Best graduating Student at our graduation and continued to demonstrate that excellence throughout his professional life.

With gentleness and humility, he brought clarity to complexity. Whether guiding young professionals or advising seasoned colleagues, he always made time to share his knowledge, never guarding it, but offering it freely. He had that rare gift of teaching not by showing how much he knew, but by showing how much he cared.

His work in disaster preparedness and response was nothing short of inspiring. He understood that the health of animals, people, and ecosystems are deeply intertwined. In the face of crises—natural disasters, disease outbreaks, or community emergencies—he was a calm, reassuring presence. He helped build systems not just to respond, but to prepare, to prevent, to protect.

But beyond the science, beyond the plans and the protocols, he led with heart. He was the colleague who mentored and believed in others, the friend who listened more than he spoke.

We have lost a bright mind, a generous spirit, and a gentle soul. But what he gave us endures—in the lives he touched and inspired, the systems he built, and the legacy of kindness he leaves behind.

In honoring him, let us carry forward his example: to be thoughtful in our work, generous with our knowledge, and steadfast in our care—for animal health and collaborative approach. Rest in Peace our dear brother, colleague and friend.