Dear [Family Member's Name],

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my sincerest apologies for not being able to attend the birthday party on [date].

It was truly a special occasion, and I cannot tell you how disappointed I was to miss it. Family gatherings mean so much to me, and I regret not being there to celebrate with everyone.

Unfortunately, [brief explanation of the reason for absence, e.g., "I had a last-minute work commitment that I could not avoid."]. I understand how important these moments are, and it pains me to have missed out.

Please convey my love and warm wishes to everyone who attended. I promise to make it up to you and the family soon. Let's plan a get-together in the near future; I would love to catch up and celebrate properly.

Thank you for your understanding, and again, I am truly sorry for not being there. Wishing you a wonderful year ahead filled with happiness and success.

With all my love,

[Your Name]