Dear [Friend's Name],

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my sincerest apologies for not being able to attend your [event or gathering] on [date]. It truly means a lot to me, and I regret missing such a special occasion in your life.

Unfortunately, [brief explanation of your reason for missing it, e.g., a prior commitment, unexpected circumstances]. I was really looking forward to celebrating with you and being part of your joy.

Please let me know all about it; I would love to hear how it went and see some pictures! I hope to catch up soon and celebrate together, even if it's belated.

Wishing you all the happiness in the world.

Warm regards,

[Your Name]