

JOHN TALKS TECH WITH BILL GATES

In 1976 I bought a new computer system to run my motorcycle company. It was primitive with (2) giant 8" floppy drives (1.2 megabytes of disc storage) and 16k of memory. The video display was made by Soroc in Anaheim, California along with an LA36 dot matrix printer from Western Digital. The logo on the video display looked like a round circle with a slit in it. I was always curious what that logo meant until a Soroc employee told me that they loved to drink Coors beer, which the name and logo reflected. Rearrange the letters of the company Soroc and it becomes Coors. Wow!

The company I bought the computer from, Algorithm Computers swiftly went out of business before I was able to run even one report. I was intrigued with the programming aspect and heard about a guy named Bill Gates who wrote a programming language called M-Basic which I needed to be able to write the necessary programs for my business. In 1976, I met Bill at the Anaheim Convention Center in California where he proceeded to explain what was necessary for me to get started. I looked at him with his long hair and thought; this guy looks like a hippie, I hope he knows what he's talking about. Well, I bought his M-Basic in a green 3-ring binder and 8" floppy disc and began programming. He sure did know what he was talking about!



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Bill Gates is chairman of Microsoft Corporation, the worldwide leader in software, services and solutions that help people and businesses realize their full potential. William Henry "Bill" Gates III (born October 28, 1955) is an American business magnate, investor, programmer and philanthropist. Gates is the former chief executive and current chairman of Microsoft, the world's largest personal-computer software company, which he co-founded with Paul Allen. In 1973, Gates entered Harvard University as a freshman, where he lived down the hall from Steve Ballmer, now Microsoft's chief executive officer. While at Harvard, Gates developed a version of the programming language BASIC for the first microcomputer - the MITS Altair.

On June 27, 2008, Gates transitioned out of a day-to-day role in the company to spend more time on his global health and education work at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. He shares his thoughts about the foundation and other topics on Gates Notes, a Web site launched in January 2010. Gates continues to serve as Microsoft's chairman and as an advisor on key development projects. In June 2006, Craig Mundie assumed the new title of chief research and strategy officer at Microsoft and is responsible for the company's research and incubation efforts. View Official Website: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Gates



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