

Resume of Kenneth L. Hess

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Employment

Science Buddies, Carmel, CA

Founder and President, 2001 – Present

Ken founded this 501(c)3 nonprofit organization when he saw how much his daughter learned from her participation in science fairs. Science Buddies (www.sciencebuddies.org) has created an innovative library of resources designed to enrich science education by encouraging greater participation in science fairs and providing the means to improve project quality.

Pocket Express, Inc., Novato, CA

Founder and Chairman, 1999 – 2002

Ken co-founded Pocket Express, a company that designed and manufactured software for Palm pocket computers. In 2002, the company's product line was sold to Handmark, Inc.

Banner Blue Software, Fremont, CA

Founder and President, 1984 – 1996

Ken bootstrapped this software development company from a personal investment of \$20,000 and no outside funds to annual sales of \$25 million and acquisition by Broderbund Software, Inc. Through 1996, Banner Blue had sold approximately 2 million copies of *Family Tree Maker* (for locating and organizing information about one's ancestors) and *Org Plus* (for making corporate organization charts). Ken personally wrote the initial versions of these award-winning programs and also designed Family Tree Maker Online.

Symantec, Cupertino, CA

Product Manager, Director of Product Marketing, 1983 – 1984

Hewlett-Packard, Palo Alto & Cupertino, CA

Various Product Marketing Positions, 1978 – 1983

Teradyne, Inc., Boston, MA

Summer Intern, 1977

Intel Corporation, Mountain View, CA

Production Supervisor, Shift Supervisor, 1974 – 1976

U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC

Summer Intern, 1973

Publications & Patents

Bootstrap: Lessons Learned Building A Successful Company From Scratch, S-Curve Press, 2001.

U.S. Patent 4,764,867, "Display System and Method for Constructing and Editing a Hierarchical Arrangement of Information," issued August 1988. This was one of the first software patents issued.

"Picking the Best Display: An Easy-to-Follow Guide." *Electronic Design* (August 19, 1982): 139-146.

Boards

Sensant Corporation, San Leandro, CA, 1998-2005.

Carmel Bach Festival, Carmel, CA, 2001-2004.

The Hoover Institution, Stanford University, Board of Overseers, 1996-2002.

Software Forum Advisory Board, 1993-1998.

Education

Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, Boston, MA

1976 – 1978

Ken received a Master in Business Administration degree.

Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA

1971 – 1974

Ken received a Bachelor of Science Degree with Distinction, Engineering. His major was interdisciplinary with emphasis in engineering, computer science, and political science. Ken was a member of Tau Beta Pi (national engineering honorary), Co-Chairman of Stanford-in-Washington (public affairs internship organization), and an astronomy laboratory teaching assistant.

Personal Information

Ken has been married to his wife, Connie, since 1977. They have a daughter, Amber, born in 1987. Ken's avocations include photography, astronomy, and building almost anything.