



# Whatever Happened to Arthur Oldehoeft

Then	Capsule Summary	Now
	<p>Born in: Seward, NE (1935)            Grew Up in: Seward, NE; Ellsworth, KS; Perry, OK            High School: Perry High School in Perry, OK            Undergraduate Degree: BA Math, Oklahoma A&amp;M College (1957)            Graduate Degrees: MS Math, Oklahoma State University (1959); PhD Computer Science, Purdue University (1970)            After Graduation Lived/Worked in: Ames, IA</p>	
Purdue Highlights		Career Highlights
<p>Arthur (Arch) came to Purdue University in 1965 to pursue a PhD after learning about the establishment of a new graduate program in Computer Science.</p> <p>While at Purdue, Arch worked as both a teaching assistant and as a research assistant. On occasions, he taught an undergraduate course in numerical analysis. Under the direction of Professor Samuel Conte, he wrote a dissertation on computer-assisted instruction, a concept that was a forerunner to current online instructional systems. He was the 20th person to be awarded the PhD degree by the Department.</p> <p>As a mentor, Sam Conte had a major influence on Arch's life in many ways. On one particular memorable occasion, Arch overheard a conversation between Sam and another PhD student who said, "When I graduate, I won't have to work this hard anymore; I will be able to take life easy." Sam laughed, almost hysterically! At the time, the incident seemed rather strange only to have its full meaning revealed a bit later in life.</p>		<p>Arch's computing career began in 1956 as an undergraduate student at Oklahoma A&amp;M College where he learned to program an IBM 650 computer. After earning an MS degree from Oklahoma State University and before continuing graduate studies at Purdue University, he worked for several years as an application and systems programmer (on various computers) for aircraft companies and university computing laboratories.</p> <p>After graduation from Purdue, Arch joined the faculty of the newly formed Computer Science Department at Iowa State University in Ames. He progressed through the academic ranks and earned full professorship in 1982. Working long hours to gain tenure, he could hear the laughter of Sam Conte echoing through the hallways (about taking life easy after graduation). In 1986, he became the chairman of the Department, a position he held for 12 years.</p> <p>While at Iowa State, Arch ventured into several areas of research and instruction including operating systems and computer security. He was also a consultant for computing companies and did contract work for the federal government. He retired from Iowa State in 1999 as Emeritus Professor of Computer Science.</p> <p>The support of Arch's spouse (Margie) was an invaluable factor in his career. They have been married for 47 years and have two daughters and four grandchildren.</p> <p>In retirement, Arch does volunteer work through a Rotary Club, reads widely, travels, plays bridge, and enjoys watching sporting events.</p>