



2023 NATIONAL INVENTORS
HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Born: Jan. 2, 1938

Died: June 9, 2024

Primary Connections:

- University of Michigan: Emerita Professor, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, 1985-present
- DARPA: Assistant Director for Strategic Computing, 1983-85
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology: Visiting Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, 1978-79
- Xerox PARC: Research Fellow and Manager, VLSI Systems Area, 1973-83
- Memorex Corp.: Senior Staff Engineer, 1969-73
- IBM Corp.: Research Staff Member, 1964-68

Education:

- Columbia University: B.S., Electrical Engineering, 1962; M.S., Electrical Engineering, 1963

Key Memberships/Awards:

- IBM Corp.: Lifetime Achievement Award, 2020
- American Association for the Advancement of Science: Fellow, 2016
- Computer History Museum: Fellow, 2014
- National Academy of Engineering: Member, 1989

10 Things You Need to Know About

Lynn Conway

Very Large-Scale Integration (VLSI)

U.S. PATENT NO. 5,046,022

1. Conway was born in 1938 in Mount Vernon, New York.
2. She said that as a child, she spent a lot of her time in libraries: "I've been impacted in very deep ways by the stories of the adventures of people who've done cool things — adventures with technology, inventors, designers, discoverers."
3. Conway was active in advocating for transgender rights and in seeking recognition for women's technical achievements.
4. The National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals named her its Engineer of the Year in 2005.
5. Conway was awarded honorary doctorates from Trinity College, Illinois Institute of Technology, University of Victoria and the University of Michigan.
6. Electronic Design magazine named her to its Hall of Fame in 2002.
7. Conway was a fellow of IEEE, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Computer History Museum.
8. She received the Franklin Institute's John Price Wetherill Medal, the Achievement Award of the Society of Women Engineers, and the James Clerk Maxwell Medal of the IEEE and the Royal Society of Edinburgh.
9. Her book co-written with NIHF Inductee Carver Mead — "Introduction to VLSI Systems" — became the go-to textbook for chip designers.
10. Conway had five U.S. patents.