

Matthew Yuschik, PhD – Biography

Matt graduated from BFHS in 1962, excelling in doubles tennis as part of Fr. Doyle's All Catholic team for 2 years. He excelled at Math and Science. He spent his High School summers either taking additional courses or working on his grandparents' dairy farm in eastern PA. Occasional trips to visit NYC relatives encouraged the value of travelling.

After graduation, Matt went to SUNY/Buffalo for his BS in Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE), then attended Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh for his MSEE. He performed research for the Department of the Navy in the DC area before returning to SUNY/Buffalo to complete his PhD in 1980 by combining language and computer skills to create and test a speech recognition algorithm on the first 16-bit computer.

Matt took a position in the ECE Department at the University of South Carolina where he taught circuit theory, speech processing and artificial intelligence courses. His work on speech coding led to summer work at the Naval Research Lab. He also received a research grant to lecture in Japan about the design of speech recognition computer chips. He consulted with Wang Labs in Boston where he was hired to use voice commands to access voice mail, and then was hired by Ameritech (Midwest baby Bell company) in Chicago to use speech for telephone applications.

He was lured back east with a position at Boston Technology, again working on speech commands for voice mail, and thru a merger ended a part of Comverse, an Israeli company. Matt travelled to Israel, Sweden, the UK, Portugal and France to work on different languages for recognition. He then went back into academics as Chairman of IT at the Boston campus of University of Phoenix where he taught in-class and online business and statistical classes.

He returned to industry to design and integrate speech technology for Citibank in Cincinnati to develop telephone –based customer services that included voice verification. He did considerable coding and testing of user interfaces for banking applications on mobile telephones.

Matt finally retired in 2019, still embracing new technology with 11 patents under his belt. He divides his time between East Aurora with its tennis club, and a log cabin in South Valley NY (near Jamestown) where he decompresses, enjoys nature, and tries to get his sailboat in the water at the Onoville Marina whenever he can.