

Wayne L. Brillhart

Biography (of sorts)

Graduated from Muskegon Senior High School. Received several awards for achievement in Latin. Received scholarship in chemistry from Central Michigan University. (Did not accept.) Played cornet in the symphonic band and the marching band.

Went to Muskegon Community College and graduated with an A.A. degree.

Then worked a year at Continental Motors Corporation in the metallurgical lab. Did testing of metals to verify chemical content and hardness. Also did inventory and supervised release of raw steel bars to machine shop. Size from 3/16" to 5-1/4" diameter bars.

Went to University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Received an A.B. degree in mathematics and physics along with a teaching credential. Was a substitute teacher in the Ann Arbor public schools during final year at U of M. Obtained a Michigan Teaching Credential.

Joined the Los Angeles Unified School District and taught math and science for several years. Was selected to participate in a specially funded state program (SB98) to employ video techniques in teaching math. Later was chosen to be an advisor to Title I schools. Gave demonstration lessons and helped develop a highly successful math program for the inner city students. Obtained a life time California Teaching Credential. Following a break in service as an Executive Search Professional returned to the classroom and instructed teachers how to employ computers as a teaching aid. Helped write a grant request that resulted in an award of computers from the Apple Corporation. Organized and taught classes for teachers to learn the use of the Apple computers.

Also while in Los Angeles directed the Tutoring Services of Los Angeles Reading Center. Created special reading program and had many success stories of students achieving a two grade improvement in six weeks of instruction. Also supervised over 20 credentialed teachers tutoring in homes after hours.

During this time obtained a M.S. from California State University, Northridge in Administration, Supervision and Higher Education. Also received a California Administrative Credential.

While in California enjoyed camping in the high Sierra Nevada mountains (above 7,000 feet altitude) with the family. Also enjoyed camping in Washington State near Mt. Ranier and in the Cascades National Park. Did some hiking up the mountains. Took lots of pictures with my Argus C3 getting lots of slides of the Western beauty including lots of sunsets.

Enjoyed SCUBA diving around the Channel Islands off Santa Barbara. Also did some deep sea fishing for Rock Cod in the same area.

Came back to Michigan in 1984 and went to Michigan State University in East Lansing. Got an M.S. degree in Computer Science with a major in Artificial Intelligence and a minor in Linguistics.

Taught at the University of Michigan, Flint campus in the Mathematics Department as an Adjunct Lecturer while taking classes at MSU. Assisted with writing two grant requests which were funded.

Then went to Wayne State University to do research in Computer Vision and Image Processing. Taught Computer Science classes at WSU and reorganized the introductory class. Created and conducted a training class in the C programming language for a local industry at the request of the Computer Science Department Chairman. Taught the class on-site at the company's facilities.

Joined Ford Motor Company as a supplemental employee in 1992 as a Systems Analyst/Programmer. Was project manager for a project to increase productivity of the test engineers. Created plan to reduce processing time of test files from 23.5 days average to 7 days. Designed the interface and worked with a British company to modify their software to my specification at their expense. Designed the user interface. Wrote proposal of which the first phase was funded and purchased their software and new workstations for the test engineers. Completed implementation of Phase 1 of the project improving computer response time by 2 orders of magnitude. Was promoted (to GSR-8) and reassigned to another group (Vehicle Center Systems) at the Product Development Center before work began on the remaining two phases. When supplemental time expired (and due to hiring freeze) joined M.I.S. International as a full time consultant to Ford. Was assigned to a special committee to do special projects for the then new Vice President of Truck Engineering, Bernie Fowler. Was assigned and completed two projects for him. Laid-off by VHS manager as a cost savings.

M.I.S. sold its consulting operation to Compuware.

Spent a short time at the General Motors Tech Center as a Software Engineer and then as an auditor for Compuware at one of their clients. Compiled list of IT purchases with non-IT funds.

In 2000 took a one month break to go to Tibet to hike in the Himalaya Mountains. Highest point reached was 18,600 feet. Also enjoyed Chengdu, the capital of the Szechwan Province in China. Went to the Panda National Research Farm and got pictures of red pandas (and the black and white ones, too).

Back in the US was assigned by Compuware to the Ford account in Health & Safety and served in various capacities as Business Analyst and Project Manager. Worked with many applications including PLAID, HCM, OHS, WCS, Employee Network & @Ford. Created both technical and user manuals for PLAID. Worked with Dr. Lares to design new interface for HCM. For OHS resolved issues with training program in addition to other duties. Managed annual launch of employee FLEX Benefits system. Did SCRP, ACR and other documents for WCS. Updated SCOPE document for @Ford. Recently was sold by Compuware to CIBER Corporation (along with over a hundred others) but still at the same assignment at Ford (Support Analyst for @Ford). Then in the winter of 2008-2009 the magic photograph was taken leading to "The Mystery at the Birdfeeder". A new interest emerged and CAMIL was created. Back to the schools and conferences as a guest speaker.

Recently was a speaker at the Michigan Association for Media in Education (MAME) annual meeting in Dearborn (Oct. 2010). The topic was "Using a Camera as an Educational Tool".

Legend: PLAID: Plant Level Absence Injury/Illness Data; HCM: Health Care Management; OHS: Occupational Health & Safety; WCS: Workers Compensation System.