



## **Sue Hunt's 47-Year Career**

I remember so vividly my first day walking up the steps of the Digital Equipment Corporation at the Mill headquarters on June 7, 1976. I had graduated from Lincoln-Sudbury High School on June 4 and here I was 3-days later entering the workforce for my first job as a "clerk-typist." I worked in the Chief Engineer's office with Dick Best and June Payne. My main tasks as a clerk-typist involved filing and typing as well as answering the phones and taking messages. I loved my IBM Selectric typewriter.

Over the next ~3 years I was recognized by Mary Jane (MJ) Forbes who approached me to work for her as her secretary in Gordon Bell's office. I was over the moon as the thought to work in a vice president's office was so exciting. MJ taught me so much and went on to be my mentor. Working with Gordon and MJ allowed me to also interact with Ann Jenkins, who was Ken Olsen's executive secretary, as well as many other executive secretaries who supported the Executive Committee leaders.

I worked with MJ for the next couple of years and then moved onto become Gwen Bell's secretary as Digital created the Digital Computer Museum in Marlboro (located in the MRO2 lobby). My connection with MJ continued as Gordon was very involved in the Museum so I continued to learn from MJ on various skills on how to advance to an executive secretary in the future. Working in the Museum was a great place to learn about the history of computers and how they were introduced in the early years. Various artifacts would be donated to the Museum for us to display and this was the fun part of the job! The Museum hosted frequent lecture series with noteworthy people like Maurice Wilkes and Grace Hopper, and it was exciting to meet these people who were a part of the early years of computing. I worked at the Computer Museum until 1982.

My next position would take me to work in the Semiconductors organization located in Hudson, MA (HLO2) as Peter Christy's secretary. Peter worked for Steve Teicher. Peter eventually was asked to be the liaison manager for Digital and Trilogy Systems based in Cupertino CA. Peter asked if I would be interested to move to California and be his secretary as Digital and Trilogy formed a relationship. Unfortunately, the relationship between Digital and Trilogy didn't last long, and around that time I was homesick and moved back to Sudbury, MA.

My next assignment was working as the secretary to Andy Stone in the Legal Department in 1984. This was an interesting organization to work in, learning about various legal cases that were taking place, and I needed to manage a high volume of confidential information. Our office was first located in Maynard (MSO1) and then we moved to PKO3-1 in Maynard.

My dream job came to me in January of 1985 when Bill Demmer offered me the position of executive secretary. I had worked hard over the past years to become an executive secretary (thanks to MJ!) and was so excited to climb the ladder in my career. Bill was the VP of Mid-range Systems reporting to Gordon Bell so my connection with MJ continued which was great. During my tenure working for Bill, there was a lot of visibility with the Executive Committee and their executive secretaries which I truly enjoyed.

Theresa Buckley nominated me to join the Executive Secretary Review Board which met monthly to review the secretaries who applied to be promoted to the role of Executive Secretary which I was honored to do. While I worked for Bill, our office was located in Littleton (LTN1), and then we opened up the new facility in Boxboro (BXB1). It was exciting to work with Dan Bonner & Gary Nelson (in Real Estate) as we designed the

executive office that Bill and I would occupy. Bill also had an office in Nashua, NH (ZKO3) which I would work from one day a week. Then we moved from Boxboro to Maynard in (PKO3). Around 1995, Bill was preparing for his upcoming retirement in 1996 and then became a consultant for Digital.

In 1995 I moved onto my next role to be the executive secretary to Ilene Lang and our office was located in Maynard (MSO2) across from Bob Palmer's office. Ilene went onto to run the Altavista organization, which was an exciting place to be. Our office moved to Littleton (LJO2) and the excitement was building with the team as we were looking forward to spinning off from Digital to form the AltaVista Company, however the company didn't see that as the direction Alta Vista should go.

My next position would take me to the Sales organization in 1996 as the executive secretary to Kimmo Alkio, who worked for Bruce Claflin. Our office was first located in Acton (AKO1) and then we moved to Marlboro (MRO2-4). I worked for Kimmo for a couple of years and while I was supporting Kimmo, I was on my way back from a vacation (Australia & New Zealand) with my Mom and our limo driver told me that I no longer worked for Digital Equipment Corporation and now worked for Compaq Computer! I was in shock as Digital was the place to work and I was concerned if the culture at Compaq would have the high standards as the culture Ken Olsen believed in for his employees.

When Kimmo left the company in 1998, I went to the Services organization working as the executive secretary to Rich Butler in John Rando's organization. Our office was located in Stow (OGO1). I worked for Rich until 2000.

My next journey took me to the Finance organization working as the executive secretary to John Procopio and Chip Benson with our office located in Marlboro (MRO1). During the time that I supported John and Chip was during that dreadful day, September 11, 2001. We were all in the office and one of my co-workers alerted us that one of the towers had just been blown up. It was devastating and we all went home to be with our loved ones. I worked with John and Chip for two years and then it was time to move onto my next position.

In 2002, I became the executive secretary supporting Bob Farrell, a VP in the HR organization. Our office was located in Littleton (LKG1) and then we moved to Marlboro (MRO2-4). Little did I know that HR was the place for me as this is the organization I am retiring from. When Bob retired, I went on to support Mike Dallas, another VP in HR as his executive secretary. Our offices went from Marlboro (MRO2) to Littleton (TAY2) then onto the 3COM building in Marlboro and then to Andover (DAS).

When Mike left HPE I continued to stay in the HR organization supporting many other VP leaders in the HR function (Kris Gordon, Dan Domenech, Sherise Curd and Katie Anderson).

As I prepare for retirement after 47 years on July 31, I have several hopes and aspirations for the future. I am excited to focus on my wellness, fitness, and indulge in my hobbies such as photography, reading, crafts, gardening, and exploring parks and beaches in Florida. While I will miss the daily contact with team members, I plan to stay connected through social media. Staying in touch and reconnecting with the people I have worked with is important to me. As for the very first thing I would like to accomplish after retiring, it's the freedom from schedules and the ability to go with the flow. I am looking forward to a more relaxed lifestyle where each day brings new possibilities. Whether it's sleeping in, exploring local sights, swimming, or simply spending time at home with a good book, I am excited to embrace this new chapter of life.

One of my co-workers asked me if I could describe my 47-year career in one word, what would that word be -- and I would say **APPRECIATED!**