John Vincent Atanasoff was born in 1903 in New York State. His father was a Bulgarian immigrant named Ivan (John) Atanasov and his mother was lva Lucene Purdy, a mathematics schoolteacher. He completed high school in two years and in 1921, he entered the University of Florida in Gainesville.

At lowa State, John Vincent met his future wife, Lora Meeks. After receiving his master's degree, John Vincent went to the University of Wisconsin for his doctorate in theoretical physics. In 1936 he was promoted to associate professor of both mathematics and physics.

Dr Atanasoff had always bеen ​​interested in finding new ways to perform mathematical computations faster. In 1937 he developed basic principles for his computing machine: he would use electricity and electronics as the medium for the computer, he would also use the binary system and condensers for memory; and he would compute by direct logical action. From 1939 until 1941 they worked at developing and improving the ABC, Atanasoff-Berry Computer, as it was later named.

Dr. Mauchly was also given access This let Dr. Mauchly later use many of Dr. Atanasoff's ideas in the design of the ENIAC which is falsely considered by most people as the world's first digital computer. Charges of piracy were later brought against Dr. Mauchly. A long trial followed and it not until 1972 that Dr. Atanasoff was given the recognition as the inventor electronic digital computer.

the Dr. John Vincent Atanasoff died on 15 June 1995 of a stroke at his home in Mon Гovia, Md. He was 91 years old. Although he was not able to get a patent for held 32 patents for his other inventions.