

My E-Systems Story (Carroll Bunch)

My story starts just prior to me joining up with LTV Missiles and Space Company...I was a member of the last Jr. Engineers training program...I think there were 20+ of us! Some got sent to Greenville...my 3 roommates were in that group. I got farmed out to Dr. C.C. Lee where this group resided in the old Antenna Range Building.

My boss was Ed Villaseca who was from Chile. Our group was involved in antenna development for A/C and missile applications. It was small in its start with Ed, Bill Rudd, John Brake, Barry ??? and me. We soon grew with Ed bringing engineers from his previous company in Florida...Jim Lemmon, Don Shea, George Albin and a few others. We designed antennas from DC to Light, i.e., ferrite loops, spirals and multimode spirals for missile applications. We had Bryce Anderson running stripline product designs and we were far ahead of the other companies in the US in that arena.

Dr. Lee got into some kind of trouble with management and left to start his own company...UTL. We were competitors after he left and he "stole" most of our designs as well as other product designs from TI! We had George Theis market most of our stripline products to the world.

We had an Army program called STARS that was installed in the Mohawk A/C in a pod and we ran flight tests on it as I remember. Dr. Lee eventually got it moved to UTL?

Dr. Brooks took over our group after Dr. Lee left and our group was dissolved in the late 60's...some went to the Falls Church location. I got laid off and worked for Resalabs over on Easy St. with Dr. Judd and a bunch of engineers from TI. I soon ended up at F&M Systems on Walnut Hill Ln. working with Ed Villaseca, Jim Lemmon and others from our old group. They designed a Wullenweber array DF System and installed it overseas somewhere. I designed and built test equipment to maintain its operation.

Dr. Don Eager was responsible for me coming back to the old company (in 1972) to work on the River Joint Program with Ed DeLoach...we designed, built and tested the AEELS compliment of equipment flying on the RJ 135 today...18 systems are in the USAF inventory!

I soon joined the Sea Hawk program and became E-System's "Mr. Auto Test" guy! We used early HP desktop computers for running tests and Larry Swingle led my SW development team quite admirably! I worked on SH I thru V under Bob Shockley before Dr. Judd and Ben Medely (Mfg Director) called me out to automate testing on the manufacturing floor in support of Ed DeLoach's program.

E-Systems in the early 90's offered an "early out" retirement program and I saw all of the engineering talent retiring so I decided to leave too! I definitely believe this was the most talented group ever in what capabilities it had...

Hope you enjoyed reading this story...it was my 30+ year tenure at the old home place!!!