

John McAfee

The godfather of AntiVirus



John McAfee was born on a US Army base in Cinderford, Gloucestershire, England on the 18th of September 1945 to an American father who was stationed there and an English mother. His family soon relocated to Salem, Virginia, USA which is where he was raised. His childhood was rough as his father was an abusive alcoholic, who went on to commit suicide when John was 15. Despite this, he was still a good student and managed to study mathematics in Roanoke College, from which he graduated in 1967. He then went on to study for a P.h.D. there but was expelled from the college before he could complete his studies. He found work as a programmer for NASA in 1968 and stayed there for several years, before jumping between jobs for several years. It's believed his alcohol and drug addictions are to blame for his inability to keep a job as he would often be under the influence of multiple substances whilst at work. Whilst working for Lockheed in the 1980s, a colleague introduced him to the BRAIN virus, which McAfee found to be quite interesting. He concluded that the best way to tackle such a program would be to develop software designed to detect it. He went on to found McAfee Associates in 1987. He allowed individuals to download his software for free but charged businesses. In 1989 he quit his job in Lockheed Martin and pursued antivirus software full time. He predicted that computer viruses would be more prevalent in the future and set the foundation for antivirus software in the future. McAfee would eventually sell his stakes in the company in 1994.

In the mid 90s he would found Tribunal Voice, a company that developed PowWow, the first instant messaging program for Windows. The software had many features which are now the standard in messaging software. Among many things, the software was compatible with other instant messengers, such as AOL and MSN.

McAfee would spend most of his life jumping from company to company, constantly pursuing a new venture, only to hand it off to someone else and leave once he grew bored of it.

McAfee identifies as a libertarian and as a result values peoples individual freedoms over anything else. His views include the legalisation of cannabis, the abolition of the TSA, as well as having a free market with no wealth re-distribution. He ran for US president twice with the party, in 2016 and 2020, but failed to be nominated as the parties candidate both times.

He has been arrested in many countries for charges related to either drugs or firearms and has also been deported for such crimes. His most recent legal issues have been with the us government as he's on the run from tax evasion charges. He spent a period living on a boat and travelling around the world in order to stay hidden. He has recently been arrested in Spain by request of the US government with hopes of getting him deported so that he can be sentenced. He is currently facing charges that could land him in prison for 30 years.