



2020 NATIONAL INVENTORS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Born: April 12, 1925
Died: Dec. 8, 2018

Primary Connections:

- Greenhouse Management Co.: President, 1980-87
- Burroughs Corp.: President of Redactron Division, 1976-80
- Redactron Corp.: Co-founder and president, 1969-76

Education:

- Hunter College
- New York University: Bachelor's Degree, Physics, 1945

Key Memberships/Awards:

- Computer History Museum: Fellow, 2015
- Women in Technology International: Hall of Fame, Member, 2011
- Long Island Technology Hall of Fame: Member, 2006

10 Things You Need to Know About

Evelyn Berezin

Inventor of Computer Systems for Business Use

U.S. PATENT NO. 3,253,262

1. Berezin was born in the Bronx, New York, and was the daughter of immigrant parents. Her father worked as a furrier and her mother was a seamstress.
2. She first became interested in science and technology when reading copies of her older brother's Astounding Science Fiction magazines.
3. Berezin was 16 years old when she began taking classes at Hunter College. She later earned an undergraduate degree in physics from New York University.
4. While working at Teleregister Corp. from 1957-60, Berezin designed for United Airlines an early passenger reservations system, said to be the largest interconnected electronic data processing system built for business use at that time.
5. After becoming exasperated with the limitations placed on women in technology industries, she co-founded Redactron in 1969.
6. Redactron produced the "Data Secretary," which was the first electronic word processor aimed at simplifying secretarial work.
7. To promote the Data Secretary, Berezin took out an ad in Ms. magazine in 1971. The ad was titled "Death of the Dead-End Secretary" and included Berezin's contact information offering "Free the Secretary" buttons and stickers.
8. In 1976, she was named one of the Top 100 Businesswomen in the United States by Business Week magazine and was the only woman who was the president of a technology company.
9. Berezin served on the board of a number of public companies, including CIGNA, Koppers Co., Datapoint and Standard Microsystems. She also was an advisor for several start-up technology companies.
10. She held 13 U.S. patents.