

## 2021 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

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

