

Bob Plemmons

Mathematics Career
Some Comments

Youth

- ▶ Grew up in Western NC in edge of Blue Ridge Mountains (1938-57)
- ▶ Baseball was my passion, led to college education and financial start as a pro.
- ▶ Played at Wake Forest, Math. Major (1957-61)
- ▶ Signed with Baltimore Orioles, pitcher in minor leagues 3 years, numerous cities across US.
- ▶ Married Mary Jo, December 23, 1963 (50th next month)
- ▶ Parallel processing: NDEA fellowship to Auburn U., graduate school Fall & Winter, baseball spring & summer. Graduated 1965.



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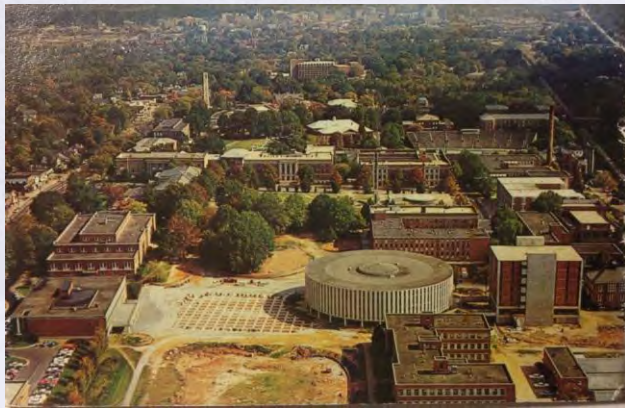
Early Math Career

- ▶ Computer algebra, met Donald Knuth in Oxford, 1968
- ▶ Worked at NSA 1965-66, interacted with IDA – Princeton
- ▶ Worked at U. Miss. 1966-67.
- ▶ Moved to U. Tennessee 1968 to work with Alston Householder on Numerical Linear Algebra – last Gatlinburg (Householder) meeting in Gatlinburg 1968
- ▶ Helped to found Computer Science Dept., served as Chair
- ▶ Funding from DOE (Oak Ridge), NSF and ARO



Mid Career

- Moved to NC State Univ. 1980, Math and Comp. Sci. depts.
- Computational Math., NLA (Moody Chu)
- Funding from ARO, NSF, NATO, AFOSR(began 1983)
- Work moved to Math in Imaging, EE dept.
- Sabbaticals at Stanford, Illinois
- Several graduate students, including Mike Berry (MS), Jim Nagy (PhD).
- First visit to Hong Kong (1991?). Met Raymond and his student Michael.



Closing Career

- Reynolds Prof. at Wake Forest, 1990...
- Funding: AFOSR, ARO, CIA, NSA, iARPA, NGA
- IMA at UMN 1992
- Several MS students, including Misha Kilmer, Donghui Chen
- Began working with Sudhakar Prasad through AFOSR Maui projects, ARO and iARPA
- Imaging and Optics, sabbatical at Duke 1998
- Son-in-law Paul Pauca (Theresa), PhD in CS at Duke, now Assoc. Prof. WFU.



Closing Career

- ▶ Son Greg moved to NC from Asia last year with Japanese wife, two children.
- ▶ Retired from teaching July 1.
- ▶ Five grand children in town...
- ▶ Working with Sudhakar Prasad, Dave Brady and Peter Zhang on AFOSR project. Related work with Sebastian Berisha & Jim Nagy.
- ▶ Gardening, sports, travel with Mary Jo, grand children, continuing research, happy!