

EXTRACT FROM THE M.I.T. REUNION BOOK

ClassYear: 1958 ReunionYear: 2008

Alumni Bio Information:

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Caption: Robert L. Baber

Please tell about highlights of your career, family, health, hobbies and volunteer activities, how MIT influenced your life, or any other things that you wish to share.

Looking back from a vantage point half a century later, MIT and its environment constituted a catalyst which transformed me from a naive 16 year old into a somewhat less naive young adult ready for release into working and professional life. In addition to the educational and professional aspects of my MIT experience, my social encounters with many different kinds of people during my MIT days were important in broadening my horizons from those of my exclusively southwestern U.S. upbringing to encompass "western civilization" more widely. This, in turn, formed the basis for my subsequent international experiences.

All in all, I enjoyed my student days at MIT very much. Especially the independence, freedom and responsibility for my own daily life contrasted pleasantly from my high school days at a military boarding school.

At MIT I received the SB and SM degrees in electrical engineering and an SM in industrial management. Many years later, I received the Dr.-Ing. degree in informatics (computing science) from the Technische Hochschule Darmstadt in Germany.

My wife Ursula and I were married in 1964 in Germany, where we now live. We have two married children, a daughter living in Edinburgh, Scotland, and a son living in Cambridge, England. We have one grandson a year and a half old.

After MIT, I served two years in the Army at a computer center inside a rock mountain in Maryland. Then, in Germany, I worked for Control Data, the consultancies Diebold and Harbridge House and as an independent consultant. Afterward, I taught computing science at universities in South Africa and Canada and, finally, engaged in software research in Ireland before retiring to Germany.

More detailed information about me, my career path, my hobbies, etc. can be found on my personal web site, see <http://RLBaber.eu/MIT50Reunion/RLBaberBiogSketch.pdf> and the links above.