

RIP Doug Engelbart, Father of the Mouse

Written by Marco Attard
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Dr. Doug Engelbart, father of the computer mouse and many other PC and internet technologies, dies age 88 in his Atherton, California house of kidney failure.



Born in in Portland, Oregon on 25 January 1925, Engelbart started working on computers in the 1950s when he had an "epiphany" involving a computer screen full of different symbols-- a vision, probably inspired by Navy radar consoles The New York Times suggests, of what we can recognise as a computer workstation desktop.

In the 1960s Engelbart established the experimental Augmentation Research Centre (ARC) at Stanford Research Institute (SRI, later SRI International), where he developed a number of revolutionary technologies first shown off at the 1968 Fall Joint Computer Conference, California.

During what Silicon Valley calls "the mother of all demos" Engelbart demonstrated not only his 1964 invention, the mouse (a collaboration with mechanical engineer William English), but also text editing, video conferencing, hypertext and windowing within a remarkable creation called oNLine System (NLS).

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[Computer Mouse: 40 Years After the Mouse \(The New York Times\)](#)