Anita Borg (1949-2003)

Yan He

The department of Computer Science

24 Feb, 2016
Childhood and Education

- Born as Anita Borg Naffz on January 17, 1949 in Chicago, Illinois
- Lived in Palatine, Camping car, Hawaii, Europe, Chicago, Washington
- Studied in University for 2 years from 1967
- Married, Moved to New York in 1969, Started in Data Processing Field
- In early 1970s, divorced and back to school at NYU
- Received Ph.D on Operating system in 1981
Career

- Worked for Auragen in New Jersey from 1981 (Fault-tolerant operating system)
- Headhunted by Germany company Nixdorf in 1985 to work with TARGON.
- Moved to California, Worked in DEC after 1986
- Founded Systers on SOSP in 1987
- Founded the Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing in 1994
- In 1997, started to worked for Xerox and founded "The Institute for Women and Technology" (Anita Borg Institute)
- Diagnosed with brain tumor in 1999, and died on 6th April, 2003 in Sonoma, California
Systers

- Started with a bathroom story in 1987
- ”Sisters” and ”System”
- The largest email community of women in technical computing
- Safe place, reality and encouragement and technical suggestions
- Pioneer for Feminism activity communities
The Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing

- Founded in 1994, named after Grace Hooper
- The world’s largest conference of women technologists
- First conference was held at Washington, D.C., in June 1994
- Including career sessions, poster session, career fair, award ceremony and more
- Male participants is also growing
The Institute for Women and Technology

- Non-profit organization founded in 1997 and supported by many companies.
- Inspired by the book "The Futures of Women".
- Two main goals:
  - Increase the impact of women in the technology field.
  - Increase the positive impact of technology on women around the world.
- Activities, Awards, Workshop, Exchange programs, Researches for technical women.
- Renamed to "The Anita Borg Institute for Women in Technology" in 2003 after Anita Borg died. Telle Whitney is the current CEO and president.
"I cannot think of anything that I could spend the rest of my life engaged in that would be more exciting and would have more potential to make a tremendous impact, and I can think of no challenge that would draw young women into this field greater than knowing what they are doing is very connected to the world and they can bring their whole selves to it”

Quoted from Anita Borg from the following video:

   Anita Borg Celebration:Changing the World for Women and Technology