



Clifford E. Berry

B.S., Electrical Engineering, 1939; M.S., Ph.D., Physics, 1941, 1948

Clifford Berry built his first radio by age 11, and he went on to become the co-inventor of the world's first electronic digital computer. During his time as a student at Iowa State College, Berry worked with Professor John Atanasoff, and by 1940, Berry and Atanasoff had created a working prototype of the first digital computer: the Atanasoff-Berry Computer (ABC). This early invention led to the development of the computers people use around the world today. Berry received ISU's highest honor, the Distinguished Achievement Citation, the first time it had been given posthumously. Berry also worked in a defense-related position for the Consolidated Engineering Corporation, where he became Chief Physicist, Assistant Director of Research, Director of Engineering of the Analytical and Control Division, and Technical Director.

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