

Bill Easton Bio – NOTIS Reunion 2023

I joined NOTIS as, I think, the fourth System Engineer in 1986. Ned Taafe recruited me as we had been working at Time, Inc. as programmers. The move to NOTIS was a pivotal point in my life as it offered me a lot of opportunities and helped me to find a career in sales and management.

As a system engineer, I was OK, but it really was not my strength. I was pretty good at installing the system at the different Universities but then supporting the Tech 1 afterwards was a challenge—I had Mark Hinnebusch from FCLA as one of my accounts. He always said, “you may not know the answer, but you always get the answer for me.”

I joined when we were at Northwestern so went all the way through NOTIS, Inc. Ameritech Library Services, epixtech and left when they were going to change the name back to Dynix—you know how well we got along with them! Towards the end, former staff would always comment to me at ALA, you’re holding down the fort. I just didn’t want to be a “vendor whore.” But I ended up being one—spent a few years selling Polaris for Gaylord, six months selling “Rooms” for Sirsi—the product didn’t exist—and six months for ExLibris selling Aleph—all the universities had purchased it already.

In 2005, I went to Innovative Interfaces as an Account Manager. I kinda saw this job as short term and never felt I would stay long. I was there for over 15 years. Besides being an Account Manager, I was Senior Director of Sales for the Asia Pacific Rim, Director of Customer Sales for the Western and then Eastern half of the US and then became Vice President of Customer Sales for North America. I ended my career at ILL as an Account Manager as I became a caregiver for my wife so couldn’t travel as much. I retired in 2021 but still do business development for new sales on a part time basis.

Joanne, my wife, passed away in 2019 and I now live in a condo in Park Ridge. Besides the consulting I do for ILL, I have my exercise classes, “Silver Sneakers”, go to the gym, ride by ebike and read romance novels! 😊 I volunteered to help Seniors do their taxes and work at a Food Pantry. I want to travel more but need a companion! I waste a lot of time also!

NOTIS Days--SCARY



Current

