# Pioneering Computer Scientist and Transgender Advocate Lynn Conway Passes Away at 86



Lynn Conway, a groundbreaking figure in both the computer and transgender communities, passed away last Sunday at 86. Conway, a pivotal force in the computer revolution, co-invented Very Large Scale Integration (VLSI), a method of microchip design integral to modern technology like smartphones and cars.

Born in the computer science hub of Silicon Valley, Conway began her gender transition in 1967 and later emerged as a prominent advocate for transgender rights. She was an early pioneer of the internet's potential to disseminate knowledge and support transgender individuals through her influential personal website, which provided extensive information on gender transition.

Conway's work in microchip design, alongside engineering professor Carver Mead, essentially created the modern microchip industry. Her advocacy extended beyond tech; she became a mentor for many in the transgender community, providing guidance and inspiration.

Her contributions to technology and her impact on the transgender community highlight a life dedicated to innovation and advocacy. Lynn Conway's legacy endures through the countless individuals she inspired and the technological advancements she helped bring to life.