

## Roger Smith



I was born in Portsmouth England in 1945. After school I joined British Telecoms as a Telecoms trainee/Engineer. At 21 years of age I left and joined GEC Telecoms in Coventry England. I became a Microwave Engineer. They had a large contract in Nigeria Western Africa so I was sent there and spent seven years working there, coming back to England for vacations. I met my wife there as she was often visiting from England to see her father who was working as a Civil Engineer. We married in London and I then joined an American Company, Granger Associates, in their UK office as a Sales Engineer. I was offered a position in their USA offices in Santa Clara CA in 1983 where I became very successful running a sales team.

With a good friend in the UK office we completed a management buyout of the company in 1995 and I ran the USA side until the UK went public in 1997. Just after that we sold the USA side of the company to Microwave Associates in Silicon valley and they sent me to the Philippines as the Country Manager for two years. After that I was lucky enough to be able to retire at 54 years of age. My wife and I bought a winter property in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico and we spent about four months there every year. We have three daughters and eight grandchildren, two of whom are now at Cal Poly University.

I moved to SLO last year from Sonoma, CA and now happily live in a lovely town house very close to downtown.