Technology And Entrepreneurship: Is It The Engineer Or The MBA That Helps?

By: Larry Kelly
November 9, 2010

Abstract:
The value of technical contribution in entrepreneurial activity, and financial result depend on focus on the business model. Successes, for example, such as a board for a computer, worked only as long as that computer was being sold. Examples from over 20 technology business I have Developed tell a story of how technology and business support each other.

About the Speaker:
Currently, Larry is Managing Partner of Kelly Ventures, a private investment company started in 1984, and is a member of both the Band of Angels and the Harvard Angels. Cutting edge technology and related development are primary investment interests.

Active in building portfolio companies, Larry is CEO of Ergodex, which is developing an innovative computer input technology, and serves on the board of Meteor Solutions, a web ad metrics startup in Seattle.

Larry worked at Hewlett Packard from 1973 to 1983, where he was involved in both marketing and software development of calculators, in developing the first single board computer for dedicated network applications, and in starting and running HP's personal computer R&D program.

Larry was Vice-President R&D at GRiD Systems, developer of the first laptop computer. Since starting his first company during college days, Larry has been involved in over 50 businesses, having started or run over 20.

Educationally, Larry received an SB in Mechanical Engineering (’70) and an SM in Nuclear Science and Engineering (’71) from MIT and an MBA from Harvard (’73).