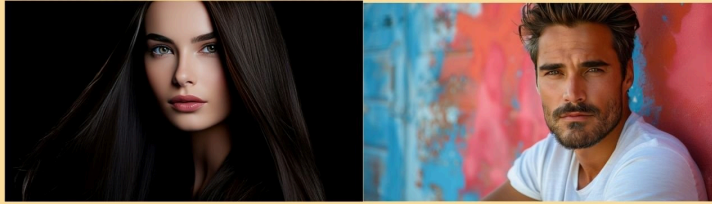


**Barbara Bouldin is an author
of workplace romance novels
set in Silicon Valley circa 1985**

Hello everyone. We are almost at the end of a wet August here in Georgia. I wonder what kind of weather you are having where you live. But Fall is approaching, and I cannot wait for the colorful leaves and crisp mornings. It may be my favorite season as it includes Halloween and Thanksgiving. I even get to celebrate my birthday in October.

There is something special to celebrate this Fall . I am delighted to announce that *Digital Destiny: Love and Tenacity in Silicon Valley* is on track for a September release so continue to watch for it.

In this book, Emma and Jake's love story continues as they deal with internal demons and external life's surprises. Digital Destiny features the ultimate battle between CEOs, Ryan and Michael, on the corporate and romantic field. They both fight for control of AI technology and the love of Laura.



*Emma
and
Jake*

*Ryan
and
Laura*

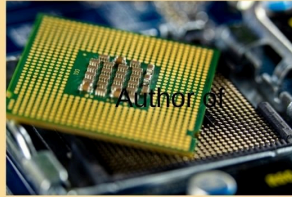


This month I am going to provide some Silicon Valley information from the 1980s that may or may not be common knowledge. Because *Digital Destiny* focuses on a startup company, much of the information below relates to that subject.

1.The “garage to unicorns” myth was factual. Most startups began in garages, spare bedrooms, and porches. I can vouch for this because I started an internet company in my family room. The “garage startup” became a symbol of a Silicon Valley way of doing business. This philosophy remains today.

2.Big money poured into startups in the form of venture capital firms. During the 1980s venture funding was firmly entrenched into the startup culture. That enabled many small garage startups to grow into serious businesses. I claimed my share of venture money but sadly never turned my startup into a serious business.

SILICON VALLEY SNAPSHOTS



3. Steve Jobs bought part of Lucasfilm and it became Pixar. At Pixar computers began to create animated movies in novel ways. I remember being awed by *Toy Story*.

4. Apple developed the Mac with an easy to user graphical interface for the consumer. Businesses continued to use IBM compatible PCs, and PCs soon appeared on every desk. The split between powerful work computers and consumer-friendly gadgets began. But as a Mac user my computer serves the functions of both work and play.

5. The work hard/ party hard culture took shape and created an era of long hours, fast-paced decision-making, and risk-taking. This environment is the predominant way people think of tech today. As someone who experienced it, I can share that it was the most exhilarating and exhausting time of my life.

If you are aware of something interesting that occurred in 1980s Silicon Valley, I would enjoy hearing about it. So, send me an email and describe it. And please continue to provide feedback as to what you would like to read about in my newsletters.

Enjoy the rest of your summer days wherever and however you are spending them.

Happy Reading,

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