

Draft Summary of Gerald Anderson "Jerry" Lawson by Sean D. AFN 124 / Spring 2021

(December 1, 1940 – April 9, 2011) was an American electronic engineer. He is known for his work in designing the Fairchild Channel F video game console as well as leading the team that pioneered the commercial video game cartridge.



1970, he joined Fairchild Semiconductor in San Francisco as an applications engineering consultant within their sales division. While there, he created the early arcade game Demolition Derby in his garage.[4][5] Completed in early 1975 using Fairchild's new F8 microprocessors, Demolition Derby was among the earliest microprocessor-driven games.

Not many people know of Gerald's accomplishments; he was a very underrated person in the process of making video game consoles.

Born :December 1, 1940
Brooklyn, New York, U.S.

Died April 9, 2011 (aged 70)

Lawson was born in Brooklyn, New York City, on December 1, 1940. His father Blanton was a longshoreman with an interest in science, while his mother Mannings worked for the city, and also served on the PTA for the local school and made sure that he received a good education.



While in high school, he earned money by repairing television sets. At the age of 13, he earned an amateur ham radio license. After receiving this license, he would save his money to buy parts from local electronic stores to build his own station in his room.

A short documentary on Lawson and his development of the Fairchild Channel F was produced by the black czar of black Hollywood and released by **block Music** Television as part of its *Profiles of African-American Success* video series.

Information cited

<https://www.nytimes.com/2011/04/14/technology/personaltech/14lawson.html>



<https://science.howstuffworks.com/innovation/big-thinkers/jerry-lawson.htm>

Video link <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=wm4vxGKizxQ>

