**Q/A with Stan:**

***1. Learning from our mis-steps is not always easy, but it's an important element of self-awareness and growth. Can you share a story of a mis-step, mistake, or "beautiful failure" you had along your career, from which you learned very important lessons?***

Failed early-transition attempt at MIT, 1956-59

(Lesson: I must become my own serious well-planned science-project)

Failure/Cancellation of my 1st project at Xerox PARC

(Set the stage for the VLSI revolution … sketch story)

***2. What’s your 1st “win” making you confident you were doing right thing?***

First light through my 6” homemade telescope, in 1953.

(Thrilling )

Beginning to covertly ‘become myself’ at MIT, 1955

(Profound Emotional Experience)

Bootstrapping my self-compiling-compiler on IBM 1620 at Columbia in ‘63.

(Thrilling Sense of Future to Explore)

First professional-job after transition, at Memorex in 1969.

(Finally Felt Like I Was Going to make it!)