Linus Torvalds

Linus was born in Helsinki. Parents, Swedish-Finns Nils and Anna Torvalds, were in the 60s radicals students, the father was even a communist, in the mid-70s had spent a year in Moscow. Linus was named after Linus Pauling. The school succeeded in physics and mathematics. He was unsociable, modest boy. He was often teased because of the political views of his father.

In 1988, Linus entered the University of Helsinki, graduating in 1996 with a master's degree in cybernetics.

Linus Torvalds lives in Portland, Oregon, USA, with his wife Tove (Tove), six times champion of Finland, karate, three daughters: Patricia Miranda (born December 5, 1996.), Daniela Jolanda (born April 16, 1998.) And Celeste Amanda (b. November 20, 2000), as well as the cat, Randy.

From February 1997 to June 2003 he worked at Transmeta Corporation, then moved to the company Open Source Development Labs. Although OSDL is located in Portland, Oregon, he works at home in San Jose.

Personal talisman of Linus Torvalds - penguin Tux (Tux), also became an emblem of Linux.

Linus's Law, definitively formulated by Eric S. Raymond, says: "Given enough eyeballs, all bugs are on the surface." Late this error is called, which is hard to find, but if a lot of people looking for bugs, then they all become superficial. Both programmers share the ideology of open source code, partly based on the belief in the law.

Unlike many of the ideologists of the open source code, Torvalds rarely speaks to the public comments on the competing programs. He was criticized for his work on the software with a closed source company Transmeta and for the use of closed BitKeeper application. However, on the attacks against Linux and open source ideology from such software giants such as Microsoft and SCO's, he reacted sharply.

In 1996 - the asteroid number 9793 was named after Torvalds.

In 1998 godu- I received EFF Pioneer Award prize.

In 1999 - I received a doctor status at Stockholm University.

In 2000 - he received the degree of Doctor of the University of Helsinki.

He was awarded the medal for the development of information systems.

In the Time magazine poll in "Man of the Century" Torvalds took 17th place.

In 2001 he shared the Takeda Award for the socio-economic prosperity of the c Richard Stallman and Ken Sakamura.

In 2004, he was named one of the most influential people by Time magazine article "Linus Torvalds: Champion of Free Software". [Clarify]

In a survey of the "100 famous Finns of all time," Torvalds took 16th place.

In 2005, he distinguished himself as the "best manager" in the BusinessWeek survey.

In August 2005, Torvalds received an award from Reed College.

In 2006, Time named him one of the revolutionary heroes of the past 60 years.

Business 2.0 magazine named him one of "10 people are not materialists," because the development of Linux Torvalds has individual features.

In 2008, he officially presented the Museum of Computer History in California.

October 22, 2008, Linus Torvalds was the winner of the annual ceremony Fellow Awards Computer History Museum (California, USA), received the award "for the creation of the Linux kernel and open management development widely used Linux operating system" [8].

2010 - C & C Prize

April 20, 2012, Linus Torvalds (together with the Japanese Shinya Yamanaka physician) was awarded the "Technology of the Millennium" award (Finland) [9]. June 13, 2012 it was presented to him by the President of Finland Sauli Niynistë [10].

In 2012 he was elected a member of the Hall of Fame of the Internet [11].

In April 2014, Torvalds received the award pioneer of computer technology [12], handing IEEE

Linux

In 1981, Leo Linus grandfather, mathematician, introduced his grandson with computer «Commodore VIC-20", use it for mathematical calculations. Linus interested in programming and read the manual to the car. Then he began to read computer magazines and write their own programs, first in BASIC, and then to the assembly.

From school years Linus received a scholarship for excellence in mathematics. The first computer was bought by him «Sinclair QL», while costing nearly $ 2,000.

After high school, Linus entered the University of Helsinki at computer course. Education was interrupted by the annual service in the army.

A significant event in the life of Torvalds was reading them a book by Andrew Tanenbaum "Operating Systems: Design and Implementation» (Operating Systems: Design and Implementation, ISBN 0-13-638677-6). presented the structure of UNIX systems in the book written by the example Tanenbaum OS «Minix». Linus was very interested read. Later, he bought a new computer-based 386 processor and set «Minix».

Finding flaws in the system, he began to write his own terminal emulator that implements task switching. Then Linus added to the program and more new features, making it soon began to find the features of a full-fledged operating system. Then he sent a now-famous ad in the newsgroup "Miniksa" to the question "What would you most like to see in minikse?" [4]:

September 17, 1991 Linus posted source code (version 0.01) for public download. The system immediately aroused great interest. Hundreds, then thousands of programmers have become interested in the system (the directory with the program, for lack of better options, called «Linux») and to work on its improvement and addition. It spread to the present day is distributed under the GNU General Public License - GPL.

Author «Minix», Professor Andrew Tanenbaum, suddenly made a sharp criticism of the system design:

"I still believe that creating a monolithic kernel in 1991 - a fundamental error. Say thank you, that you are not my student: for this design, I would not put high scores :-) "(from a letter to Linus Torvalds). Tanenbaum his post titled "Linux is obsolete". [5]

In addition to a monolithic kernel, Tanenbaum criticized the «Linux» for the lack of portability. Tanenbaum predicted that the 80x86 processors in the near future will disappear, giving way to the architecture RISC.

Criticism heavily grazed Torvalds. Tanenbaum was a famous professor and his opinion mattered. In this matter, however, he was mistaken. Linus Torvalds has insisted on its right.

Openness kernel written by Linus, made it possible to use it in conjunction with the operating time (compilers GCC, basic utilities OS) GNU, UNIX system design free option, which existed from 1983 (the whole system is often called «Linux», but it was more correct to call it " GNU / Linux »). The popularity of the system grew, and later talked about it, journalists throughout the world. "Linux" and Linus became known.

Currently, only about two percent of the system kernel «Linux» is written by Torvalds, but remains a decision on amendments to the official kernel branch for him. Thus he Linus uses Fedora 14 system [when?], But in recent years presumably inclined to switch to the openSUSE [6].

Torvalds owns the trademark «Linux» and monitors its use [7] through a non-profit organization «Linux International» and with the help of «Linux» users worldwide.
In April 2014, Torvalds received the award pioneer of computer technology [12], handing IEEE