



Western Contracting to L. G. Everist - Engineering My Path

Written by Kevin Oliver, Project Engineer

Just one day after I graduated from Iowa State University in 1984, I was hired by Dan Everist at Western Contracting. By 1986, I was working under Tom and Neil Everist and alongside Rick Everist, Jr. By November of 1986, I moved to Sioux Falls to join L. G. Everist, Inc. as a project engineer.

Things looked a little different than they do today. At that time, I worked closely with George Spencer (who oversaw construction projects, portable work, and the railroad), Dale Fields (Vice President of the Midwest Division), and Tom. Back then, travel was a large part of my job. I spent time on projects across multiple sites, going where I was needed. The furthest was a six-month stint on the West Coast with Connolly Pacific.

My first project with LGE was rebuilding the primary crusher structure for Dell Rapids East, which was failing. At that time, we drew plans by hand and I really got a taste for how resourceful the company was - reuse and repurposing was the norm. Just a few years later, that old primary system that we fixed was replaced with the equipment that stands today. Currently, we invest in our equipment with a focus on longevity.

As my career progressed, I took on various roles to support our operations. For 13 years, I served as Maintenance Manager for the railroad. But looking back, some of my favorite projects have been plant and bridge designs. The best part of my tenure, however, has been seeing the finished work operating as intended.

As LGE continues to grow, I'm especially excited to see the progress on expansions at our longstanding operations. Watching these sites evolve over the years, and knowing the roles I've played in that, has been gratifying.

There is a lot of variety in the work that LGE does. I've seen this first-hand through my experiences across different sites, roles, and projects. As the engineering department expanded over the years, it's been great to see our new team members and interns gain exposure to that same variety.

Pictured above: George Spencer, Dale Fields, Tom Everist, and Kevin Oliver circa late 80's.

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LGE Employees - Open Enrollment

HR representatives will be holding office hours at each location in the upcoming weeks regarding Open Enrollment. If you have questions, please check with your manager on when you can sign up for a meeting with Jennifer and Christine. If you have any other questions in the meantime, please email HR@lgeverist.com.

Birthdays This Week

Mark Hughes - Ortonville
Dylan Poteet - Horse Creek
Craig Johannsen - East Sioux Quarry
Shari Hauglid - Dell Rapids West
Robert Neuenfeldt - Dell Rapids West
Robert Kilber - D & I Railroad
Steve Nettleton - D & I Railroad



Featured Photos

Have a photo to feature in the Roxsant or on social media? Email them to mjbarkley@lgeverist.com!
The above-right photo is a safety lunch at the LGE Resource Center (formerly titled "the Central Lab").



Jeff Nelson driving in the Dell Rapids Homecoming Parade.



A fun idea for the rock enthusiasts and collectors, shared by Lynn M. S.



Vote for your favorite pumpkin decorated by LGE employees on the [L. G. Everist Facebook page](#).

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