

Family Photo from 2009



Ken Livak Timeline

1974-1979	Graduate student in Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Harvard University with Dr. Matthew Meselson as thesis advisor
July 24, 1976	Married Clare Pitkin, HMC Class of '75
1979-1982	Post-doc at UCSD
December 4, 1980	Thomas Michael Livak born
1982-1991	Staff Scientist at E. I. Du Pont de Nemours & Co., Wilmington, DE
September 15, 1983	Nancy Marie Livak born
April 11, 1987	Lucia Therese Livak born
April 27, 1991	Elena Susan Livak born
1991-1994	Principal Research Scientist at The Du Pont Merck Pharmaceutical Co., Wilmington, DE
1994-2007	Senior Staff Scientist, Vice President of Science, Distinguished Scientific Fellow at Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA

June 6, 2009	Tom married Mykal Rosendahl
2007-2017	Senior Scientific Fellow at Fluidigm Corp., South San Francisco, CA
March 9, 2011	Grandson Corbin John Livak born
February 11, 2015	Grandson Finn Richard Livak born
2017-present	Lead Scientist at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA

Career Highlights

- Leader of the Du Pont team that, in collaboration with National Cancer Institute, Harvard School of Public Health, and Centocor Biotech, was the first to publish the complete nucleotide sequence of the AIDS virus.
- Co-inventor with Sydney Brenner on his first issued patent.
- Inventor of TaqMan probes: Key individual in Applied Biosystem's commercialization of the TaqMan technology for real-time quantitative PCR, which is now a billion-dollar industry.
- Leader in single-cell transcriptomics.
- Member of research team studying neoantigen vaccination, which is an immunotherapy for the treatment of cancer.
- 112 peer-reviewed publications and 43 issued U.S. patents.

Family Updates

- Tom has a Master's degree in Mathematics and Computer Science from Worcester Polytechnic institute and works at MathWorks in Natick, MA



- Nancy is a lawyer and works at the Urban Justice Center in New York



- Lucia has Master's degrees in International Affairs from American University and Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto, Japan, and works at the National Mining Association in Washington DC



- Elena works at Franklin Templeton Investments in Boston and is studying for a Master's degree in Library Science at Simmons College



Ballroom Dancing



Eclipse Pictures

- China, July 2009



- Australia, November 2012



- Wyoming, August 2017



- Vermont, April 2024

