



## Sue Malikka

*"FirstGov.gov is one of the tools I use for researching new developments in science that are solving global problems."*

**Age:** 52

**Profession:** Research Scientist, University of North Carolina

**Education:** Ph.D.

**Location of Residence:** Beaufort, North Carolina

**Marital Status:** Second Marriage, husband Ashok

**Children:** Two sons, one in college and one in high school

**Hobbies:** Traveling and cooking

**Computing Environment:** At home; Gateway desktop computer, 17" monitor, IE 6.0, cable modem. At work; IBM Pentium IV 2.8 Ghz ThinkCentre desktop computer, Firefox 1.0; T1 line.

**User Type:**  beginner  intermediate  advanced  expert 6 hours a day mostly at work at least half of that time spent doing research on the Internet.

### Profile:

Sue was born in Arlington, VA, the daughter of Indra and Mall, both naturalized citizens. Sue graduated from American University in 1977 with a degree in microbiology. Her graduate studies were at University of California Berkeley where she earned both her masters and Ph.D. in Microbiology. At school she met her first husband, was married for 10 years, and had two sons. They divorced 5 years ago. She recently married again and met her husband at the University of North Carolina where she works. He is a professor there.

She has worked as a research scientist at the University of North Carolina Environmental Virology and Microbiology Laboratory on the North Carolina coast in Beaufort for 17 years. This laboratory plays a key role in research concerning the quality of drinking water, bathing water, irrigation water, soil, coastal waters and shellfish. The main

concern of researchers at these facilities is public health and protection against gastrointestinal and other diseases caused by viruses, bacteria, or other microbes that arise primarily from human or animal fecal wastes, sewage, and other sources.

In her free time, Sue and her husband love to travel. She especially likes to go to India and reconnect with her family there. Her parents are still alive and were immigrants from India. Although her family in India is considered well-to-do, she is still shocked by the poverty and lack of sanitation in the poorest areas.

Sue loves to cook traditional Indian dishes, as well as collect authentic recipes from her world travels.

### Internet Usage:

Sue is on a computer at least six hours every day, with at least half of that time spent on the Internet. She searches the Internet for published papers in her field of research. She also looks for the latest information on Third World countries and their water supply and quality.

In order to conduct her own research, she records data using specialized software that assists with her research. She has two lab assistants that help her collect local water samples to test and experiment with. Because technology is so integral to her research, she keeps abreast of the latest technologies through her job and at home. She is an early adopter and often her and her colleagues are trying out the latest computers and gadgets that come onto the market.

She is in contact with a global network of scientists and researchers in her specialty. Through the university she is able to connect with her colleagues easily through net-meetings and conference calls in order to keep abreast of the latest breakthroughs in her specialty. She is constantly contacting other scientists worldwide regarding the world's drinking water challenges.

Sue goes online to research travel abroad. She buys her airline tickets online and usually books her hotels online as well.

Sue also researches scholarships and colleges for her sons' education.

Sue looks online for recipes and advice on hard-to-find ingredients or exotic recipes. She and her husband usually have dinner parties on the weekend and many times use the recipes she has collected from her travels.

#### FirstGov.gov Usage Profile:

About once a month

#### Needs from FirstGov.gov:

- Needs latest census data on population control programs around the world
- Wants to apply for federal grants to further her scientific studies
- Interested in learning how state and federal governments in the U.S. respond to emergencies like drought and runoff
- Does research on the CDC website for her specialty

#### Favorite web sites:

- [www.newsindia-times.com](http://www.newsindia-times.com) - keeps up-to-date on the latest news in India
- [www.orbitz.com](http://www.orbitz.com) - books airline tickets and hotels for her global travel
- [www.sph.unc.edu/envr/research/labs/virology.htm](http://www.sph.unc.edu/envr/research/labs/virology.htm) - keeps up-to-date on the research lab where she works
- [www.fodors.com](http://www.fodors.com) - researches travel destinations around the world
- [www.epicurious.com](http://www.epicurious.com) - finds recipes and information on cooking

#### Personal and Professional Goals:

- Bring new technological advances to India, where drought and runoff threaten the population, causing severe water purification problems
- Coordinate international research programs and further her studies
- Use the Internet to look for funding opportunities in her field
- Encourage her sons to become scientists