

Nick Willard
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Professional Summary:

- 10+ years of overall technical experience focused both in engineering and devops
- 6+ years of DevOps in Jenkins and Datadog
- 4+ of Software Engineering mainly with C#/Java
- AWS Cloud Practitioner and Microsoft Certified Azure Data Fundamentals Certifications
- At Mastercard, resolved account data inconsistencies by architecting a Databricks-driven ETL process that centralized millions of disparate customer accounts into a Snowflake Single Source of Truth.
- Currently an Application Engineer at Capital One, driving cloud infrastructure modernization and AI tooling adoption across the post-acquisition integration team.

Professional Experience:

Capital One
Application Engineer
Remote

Aug 2025 – Present

Part of a specialized engineering team responsible for migrating Discover's legacy benefits platform onto Capital One's cloud infrastructure as part of the strategic acquisition.

- **Cloud Migration:** Selected as a core member of the specialized 11-person unit migrating Discover's benefits platform onto Capital One's cloud infrastructure.
- **Infrastructure & Security:** Designed and implemented PostgreSQL schema best practices and automated AWS Security Group provisioning, establishing a secure and scalable foundation for the new platform.
- **AI Tooling:** Developed custom Claude AI Skills to enforce coding standards and automate both pull request and architecture reviews, catching bugs and identifying cost reduction and performance improvements before reaching production.
- **AI Adoption:** Founded "Vibe Code Friday," a recurring team meeting where engineers showcase how they're using AI tooling in daily workflows, accelerating adoption and surfacing new use cases across the team.
- **Code Quality:** Standardized engineering practices across all repositories by implementing pre-commit hooks and a consistent static analysis toolchain (golangci-lint, gofmt), catching issues at commit time and reducing code review overhead.
- **Technologies Used:** PostgreSQL, AWS (Fargate, Aurora, Lambda), Jenkins, Docker, Golang.

Discover

Jul 2024 – Aug 2025

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Application Engineer & Team Lead
Riverwoods, IL / Hybrid

- **Merger Readiness:** Co-led technical preparation of core financial products for the strategic merger with Capital One (May 2025), ensuring system stability and data integrity throughout the transition.
- **Process Optimization:** Created custom ServiceNow and Jira dashboards to track vulnerabilities and incidents, reducing daily standup duration by 60% (from 40 mins to 15 mins).
- **Developer Tooling:** Built a real-time service status monitor to visualize downstream dependencies, eliminating wait times and increasing team testing velocity by 30%.
- **Modernization:** Refactored legacy Spring Batch workflows and transitioned Java services into high-performance Go binaries and Docker containers to improve scalability.
- **Technologies Used:** Java 17, Spring Boot, Spring Batch, Go (Golang), AWS (EC2, S3, Lambda), Docker, Jenkins, WireMock, SQL.

Mastercard

12/2021 - 07/2024

Senior Software Engineer (Java/Spring)

10/2022 - 07/2024

O'Fallon, MO

Part of the engineering group responsible for MasterCards high-availability 3D Secure (3DS) platform, supporting millions of authentication requests globally and protecting e-commerce transactions from fraud.

- **Monolith to Microservices:** Architected and executed the decomposition of a large legacy monolith into modular Spring Boot microservices, increasing deployment independence and improving system scalability and maintainability by 40%.
- **Event-Driven Architecture:** Designed and implemented an event-driven architecture using the Axon Framework and message queueing, enabling complex transactional workflows and improving system responsiveness and throughput by 30%.
- **Database Optimization:** Led the migration from Oracle to PostgreSQL, reducing licensing costs by over 50% and improving average query performance by 20–35%; integrated Redis caching to further accelerate high-frequency reads.
- **Reliability & Quality Assurance:** Enforced high test coverage across new microservices using JUnit and Mockito, increasing automated test reliability to 90%+ coverage and reducing production defects by ~25%.
- **API Modernization:** Delivered REST APIs built for high concurrency and consistent performance across distributed systems, improving service response times during peak load.
- **Technologies Used:** Java, Spring Boot, Microservices, Axon Framework, Redis, PostgreSQL, Oracle, JUnit, Mockito, REST APIs.

Senior BizOps Engineer (DataDog/Splunk)

12/2021 - 10/2022

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- **Global Data Pipelines:** Designed and operated multi-region data pipelines using Apache NiFi as a scalable ETL layer, enabling reliable processing, transformation, and routing of terabytes of business-critical data across global environments.
- **Cloud Data Initiative (“Customer 360”):** Key contributor to an enterprise-wide Customer 360 initiative, leveraging AWS (EC2, S3, Lambda) and Databricks to standardize fragmented customer data sources, improving data accessibility and analytical accuracy by 30%+.
- **Migration Stability & Automation:** Automated deployment workflows with custom Shell scripts, reducing manual deployment time by 50% and decreasing migration-related incidents by 40%
- **Operational Observability:** Implemented monitoring and alerting frameworks that reduced mean time to detect (MTTD) by 60%, improving overall platform reliability..
- **Technologies Used:** Apache NiFi, AWS, Databricks, Datadog, Splunk, Shell Scripting (Bash), Linux, CI/CD Pipelines.

Ungerboeck Software International
Software Engineer II (Azure DevOps/C#)
O’Fallon, MO

11/2018 - 11/2021

Ungerboeck Software is a global event-management platform used by stadiums, convention centers, and teams like the Dallas Mavericks. I supported the global build pipelines and uptime of the platform, improving reliability and automation for mission-critical

- **Infrastructure Automation:** Built and maintained PowerShell and Chocolatey automation scripts to fully provision developer and support workstations, reducing onboarding setup time from 4+ hours to under 30 minutes and decreasing recurring maintenance toil by 60%. Managed and automated updates for Azure Build Agents, ensuring consistent, secure, and reproducible build environments.
- **Build Pipeline Optimization:** Modernized the frontend CI pipeline by upgrading the legacy Gulp workflow to Gulp 4+, automating dependency/version management for the migration to Angular 11. Achieved 35% faster transpilation times, reduced build failures by ~25%, and accelerated release cycle times across multiple frontend teams.
- **Observability & Tooling:** Implemented AppOptics APM to provide real-time application performance insights, reducing mean time to detect (MTTD) by 40%.
- **Technologies Used:** PowerShell, Chocolatey, Azure DevOps, AppOptics, Angular, Node.js, Gulp, npm, C#/.NET, SQL.

Additional Experience:

DevOps Engineer Equifax – Dec 2017-Nov 2018

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Software Engineer Clearent – April 2015-Dec 2018

Skills Overview:

Application Server/Database/Infrastructure Management Experience: Oracle, PostgreSQL, Redis Cache, Databricks, Axon Framework, Apache Nifi, Jenkins, Docker, SQLServer, SSIS, Terraform, AppOptics, DataDog, Azure DevOps, Dynatrace

Scripting/Networking Experience: Maven, groovy, Gulp, python, Powershell, Puppet, Chocolatey, bash, shell

Application Development Experience: Java 17, SpringBoot, Mockito, JUnit, Golang Swagger, Git, C#, DotNet Core, VB.Net, Salesforce, Selenium, Npm, Node, Angular, Spring Batch

Education/Certifications:

Rasmussen University – A.S. - Software Application Development, Computer Science

AWS – Cloud Practitioner, AI Practitioner

Azure – AZ-900 Azure Fundamentals, DP-900 Azure Data Fundamentals