A Quick Story

A lot of people have asked why, I’m switching from Mechanical Engineering to Software Development. My hope in sharing this story is to answer that question.

When I was 7 I taught myself Visual Basic. Enamored with the ability to create something, I started making little games. Nothing too impressive, just little apps to entertain myself. As time went on, I found that mechanical engineering jobs were more prevalent in home community. So when college came around I started off on that career path.

Since then I held several jobs and excelled in each one of those positions. For one company I created their fastest selling product-line. In another I designed and developed one of their top selling products. Even though there’s been a lot of change, one thing had always remained consistent, every time I ran into a challenge which required programming I’d become consumed.

An example of this is when I developed the software for PAI to reverse engineer camshafts. The company had bought a new machine and tasked me with setting up this process. As I started in on the project it quickly became apparent that in its current state, the data the machine generated was not useable. So pencil to paper, fingers to keyboard, I developed the code to take that data, filter out the noise, and translate it into a CAD file. Several times throughout this project I forgot about lunch. I’d sit down to work and the next thing I knew it’d be time to go home.

In my next job the cycle continued to repeat itself. I’d find a problem that could easily be solved with a few lines of code, sit down to program a solution, and time would disappear. Then one day it clicked. This is what I should be doing with my life.

Ever since that moment in early 2017; I’ve spent all my free time learning as much as possible about web development. I started my studies by focusing on Javascript, the MERN stack and other technologies such as GraphQL, and Docker. Currently my focus is on mastering server-less architecture, earning my AWS Developer Certification and learning more about Java.

- Brad Tudor