

Thomas Nelson

Punta Gorda, FL 33955 | (502) 235-7526
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Professional Summary

Seasoned Lead Enterprise Architect with over 13 years of experience in backend development, **mobile applications**, cloud **platform architecture**, and enterprise architecture. Expertise in orchestrating large-scale **B2B solutions**, digital transformations, cloud migration strategies, and **DevSecOps** implementation. Demonstrated ability to enhance operational efficiency, reduce process times, and drive innovation across complex IT landscapes, including **decision-making frameworks**. Former Creative Director with a keen eye for design and user experience, bringing a unique blend of technical and creative skills to develop holistic solutions that align with business goals—actively pursuing a Master's degree in Information Management Systems from Harvard University Extension School to deepen **strategic planning**, **data governance**, and leadership capabilities. Adept at leading cross-functional teams, managing stakeholder relationships, and crafting architectural designs that support scalable, resilient, and efficient IT ecosystems.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Principal Architect, Independence Pet Group

Remote – January 2025 – Present

- **Leading the design and implementation of a cloud-native Claims Clearinghouse in Azure**, built as the foundational architecture for North American operations and expansion into the UK (June 2025), Germany, and additional global markets.
- **Driving the migration** from an existing Azure environment to a secure **hub-and-spoke model** aligned with **Tier 0/Tier 1** enterprise governance.
- Manage multi-phase tenant migration, including Azure AD, SharePoint, user/device onboarding, application infrastructure, and compliance.
- **Supporting ~200,000 monthly transactions per insurance carrier across 24 insurance carriers**; roadmap includes onboarding 5 carriers by August 2025 and full vendor integration by end of 2026.
- **Delivered key platform components**: OCR invoice pipeline, Practice Portal with RBAC integration via Auth0, universal ID resolution engine, and ETL with Databricks.
- **Established taxonomy and canonical data models** for unified reporting across conglomerate, corporate-owned, and independent practices.
- **Evaluating vendors** (e.g., Cube.dev), driving licensing and legal approval, and preparing for international scale and cross-platform support.

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Founder & Principal Architect, Cerbi, LLC

Florida – April 2025 – Present

- **Founded** and operates Cerbi, a Florida-based SaaS company focused on governed logging, observability, and telemetry compliance.
- **Built CerbiStream**, a logging library with JSON-based governance enforcement at build-time (Roslyn analyzers) and runtime.
- **Developed the CerbiSuite:**
 - **CerbiShield:** SaaS governance dashboard for managing, deploying, and auditing policies.
 - **CerbiIQ:** telemetry router for metadata-aware ingestion and ML pipeline readiness.
 - **CerbiSense:** analytics engine for governance scoring and observability insights.
- **Integrated non-PII metadata tagging** into CerbiStream for downstream analysis.
- **Releasing plugins** for Serilog, NLog, and Log4Net.
- **Currently onboarding to Microsoft Azure Marketplace as a verified ISV;** planning future expansion to AWS and GCP.

Lead Enterprise Architect, Humana

Louisville, KY — June 2021 – Present

- **Cloud-Native Solutions and Lift-and-Shift:** Led and executed lift-and-shift projects, migrating legacy architectures to cloud-native solutions primarily in Azure. Experience with cloud-agnostic architectures, hosting solutions in GCP, AWS, and IBM Cloud as required.
- **On-Premise and Cloud Hybrid Expertise:** Utilized Pivotal as a primer for on-prem solutions, integrating with cloud-native architectures for seamless hybrid deployments.
- **Strategic Architecture Overhaul:** Implemented automation and compliance integration into CI/CD pipelines, reducing ARB process times by 75% for Corporate and MRM segments.
- **Digital Transformation Leadership:** Managing cloud migration and digital transformation initiatives, overseeing the creation of critical architectural artifacts (physical current/future, logical, communication, Northstar diagrams) and executive summaries for ARB approvals.
- **Technology Review & Assessment:** Conduct comprehensive TRB reviews and assess new technologies against team requirements, competitive analysis, ecosystem compatibility, usage, support, and cost considerations to guide strategic decisions.
- **Documentation & Compliance:** Authoring Architectural Decision Records (ADRs) to document project scopes, approvals, and implementation details for archival purposes.
- **Cost Reduction & Revenue Enhancement:** Within one fiscal year, USD 1 billion was saved through cost reduction and revenue enhancement projects.
- **Enterprise Alignment & Collaboration:** Acting as the principal liaison between the segments and enterprise architecture teams, ensuring alignment of tools, timelines, and expected outcomes across the organization.

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- **TechStrat Leadership:** Leading Technology Strategy (TechStrat) initiatives, aligning projects within IT, HR, and Strategy domains with the company's long-term goals and roadmaps. Conducting team maturity assessments and technology gap analyses and presenting domain strategies to SVPs and CIOs for further alignment and execution at the executive and shareholder levels.
- **Customer Validation & Platform Architecture:** Led the creation of a scalable platform architecture with integrated customer validation processes, supporting multiple global teams and global operations across different business verticals.
- **Technology Selection & Decision-Making:** Directed technology selection processes for enterprise-wide architecture and platforms, evaluating emerging technologies to ensure alignment with the organization's roadmap and business requirements.
- **Data Governance & Compliance:** Led initiatives focused on data governance and compliance across various cloud platforms, ensuring adherence to security and regulatory standards.

Senior Solution Architect, Humana

Louisville, KY — November 2020 – June 2021

- Directed a \$1.25 billion cloud transformation project, leading the Azure migration of over 1,600 applications, enhancing system scalability and operational agility.
- Engineered a cloud-agnostic landing zone automation system, reducing provisioning time from 3 months to 1.5–2 hours, yielding significant cost savings and accelerating time-to-market for new services.
- Developed a highly scalable orchestration service using Temporal.io to manage thousands of parallel requests across multiple cloud services, with the capability to scale to millions of parallel requests.
- Integrated Temporal.io solution with Azure DevOps and Terraform for deployment automation. Also integrated with Workday and ServiceNow for resource management authorization and business ownership tracking.

Senior Software Engineer (Acting App Architect), Humana

Louisville, KY — November 2018 – November 2020

- Implemented a zero-downtime strategy for a 12 TB database, facilitating seamless cloud transformation and ensuring uninterrupted data integrity across the migration process.
- Developed a scalable queue publishing service, which increased system throughput and efficiency, resulting in significant operational cost savings. I increased the throughput from 5k an hour to 186k an hour and made it scalable. The service increased the throughput from 5,000 to 186,000 messages per hour while maintaining a 99.9% message delivery success rate.
- Led the initiative to modernize legacy systems into a microservices architecture, significantly improving the scalability and agility of business-critical applications.

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- Ran the design and implementation of a parallel operational database system, allowing simultaneous data processing and migration without service interruption.
- Established and maintained CI/CD pipelines, incorporating automated testing and deployment processes that reduced lead times and improved release quality.
- Conducted comprehensive code reviews and implemented best practices in software development, improving code quality and team performance.
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams to ensure alignment of architectural designs with business requirements and strategic objectives.
- Actively participated in Agile/Scrum ceremonies, contributing to continuously improving team processes and project management practices.
- **Customer Validation & Platform Architecture:** Led the creation of a scalable platform architecture with integrated customer validation processes, supporting multiple global teams and global operations across different business verticals.
- **Technology Selection & Decision-Making:** Directed technology selection processes for enterprise-wide architecture and platforms, evaluating emerging technologies to ensure alignment with the organization's roadmap and business requirements.
- **Data Governance & Compliance:** Spearheaded initiatives focused on data governance and compliance across various cloud platforms, ensuring adherence to security and regulatory standards.

Advanced .NET Developer (Team Lead), ZirMed

Louisville, KY — August 2014 – March 2017

- Led a team of developers in designing, developing, and implementing .NET applications, significantly improving system functionality and end-user experience.
- Initiated and managed the integration of new software solutions, which included developing APIs and services that enhanced data exchange and workflow automation across multiple platforms, leading to increased operational efficiency.
- Championed the adoption of Test-Driven Development (TDD) methodologies, resulting in a more robust and reliable codebase, decreased bug rates, and improved team productivity.
- Developed and implemented a continuous integration/continuous deployment (CI/CD) pipeline, reducing deployment times and facilitating faster iterations of software development.
- Played a pivotal role in the architectural design and planning sessions, contributing to the strategic direction of application development and cloud integration strategies.
- Converted legacy mainframe code to microservices architecture, facilitating parallel testing and ensuring seamless transition with zero downtime.
- Developed an automation tool for updating XML HL7 messages, significantly reducing manual effort and freeing two development teams (16 developers) for higher-priority projects.

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Software Developer, Jr. - Lead, YUM! KFC Division

Louisville, KY — December 2012 – August 2014

- Managed and executed the development and implementation of software solutions across over 3,000 KFC restaurants in the U.S., streamlining operations and enhancing the efficiency of restaurant management systems.
- Led the critical Windows 7 migration project for the Back of House (BOH) systems, overseeing the transition from Windows XP and ensuring system compatibility, reliability, and improved performance across all restaurant locations.
- Developed custom software solutions to automate and improve business processes, which resulted in significant time savings and reduced manual errors in restaurant operations.
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams to gather requirements, design functional specifications, and deliver high-quality software solutions that met the evolving needs of the business.
- Provided technical leadership and mentorship to junior developers, fostering a culture of continuous learning and development within the team.

EDUCATION

Harvard University Extension School

- Master of Liberal Arts, Information Management Systems (In Progress)
- Expected May 2026

University of Louisville

- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Computer Information Systems
- December 2011

Sullivan University

- Associate of Applied Science, Graphic Design
- May 1999

SKILLS

- **Cloud Computing & Infrastructure:** Expertise in Azure, AWS, Google Cloud, and B2B integrations; proficient in cloud migration, mobile applications, platform architecture, and cloud-native solutions.
- **Enterprise Architecture & Strategic IT Planning:** Skilled in TOGAF, Zachman Framework, strategic planning, data governance, and digital transformation initiatives.
- **Application Development & Design:** Advanced proficiency in .NET, mobile development (iOS, Android), POS systems, and application design.
- **Development:** .NET, CI/CD, mobile, microservices, TDD

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- Cybersecurity & Risk Management: Security & Compliance: HIPAA, GDPR, threat modeling, risk management
- Leadership & Project Management: Expertise in managing cross-functional teams, tracking milestones, and decision-making across large-scale projects, cross-team delivery, and executive reporting.

PUBLICATIONS

- "Introducing Microsoft Orleans: Implementing Cloud-Native Services with a Virtual Actor Framework," APress, May 2022

CERTIFICATIONS

- Prepare for Azure Fundamentals Certification (AZ-900) - LinkedIn
- Complete Microsoft Orleans .NET: From Zero to Hero - Udemy
- ASP.NET Core: Converting Synchronous Calls to Asynchronous - LinkedIn
- ASP.NET Core: Middleware - LinkedIn
- ASP.NET Core: Test-Driven Development - LinkedIn
- Cloud Architecture: Advanced Concepts - LinkedIn
- Cloud Architecture: Core Concepts - LinkedIn
- IoT Foundations: Fundamentals - LinkedIn
- IoT Foundations: Low-Power Wireless Networking - LinkedIn
- Programming Foundations: Design Patterns - LinkedIn
- Serverless Architecture - LinkedIn
- Azure Service Fabric for Developers - LinkedIn
- Google Cloud Platform Fundamentals: Core Infrastructure - Pluralsight
- Setting up a Cloud Solution Environment on Google Cloud - Pluralsight
- Getting Started with Kubernetes - Pluralsight
- Introduction to Microsoft Orleans - Pluralsight
- Angular: Getting Started - PluralSite
- C# Generics - Pluralsight
- 70-532 Developing Microsoft Azure Solutions Certification - Udemy
- Create and Manage Virtual Machines on Microsoft Azure - Pluralsight
- Splunk 6.x - Splunk
- Build Automation Features in TFS(v) - Udemy
- Developer to Architect - Pluralsight
- Entity Framework Core 2: Getting Started - Pluralsight
- Learning ASP.NET Core 2.0 MVC - Beginner to Developer - Udemy
- Microservices Architecture - Pluralsight
- Microsoft Azure: PaaS Solutions for Developers - Microsoft
- Quickstart AngularJS - Udemy
- Release Management in TFS - Udemy
- WCF Jumpstart - Pluralsight
- C# Developers: Double Your Coding Speed with Visual Studio - Udemy

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- Agile Scrum Master - Issued Mar 2011
- Microsoft Certified: Azure Administrator Associate - Microsoft (Issued Aug 2022)
- Microsoft Certified: Azure Solutions Architect Expert - Microsoft (Issued Apr 2021)