

# **ROGER ANDREAS MERTEN**

Richmond, CA 94804

415-815-7764

andre.merten@gmail.com

linkedin.com/in/dremer10

## **PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY**

DevOps / Platform Engineer transitioning from a Senior QA background, bringing strong experience in testing, reliability, and system validation. Recently gained practical DevOps experience with CI/CD, cloud services, containers, Kubernetes, and automation. Experience with Windows Server and Linux administration (RHEL and Debian-based distros). Strengths include identifying risk, improving deployment workflows, and supporting stable, scalable environments. Looking for infrastructure-focused DevOps positions without application development responsibilities. Currently pursuing Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA) certification.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Senior QA / DevOps Engineer**

**Aspera, an IBM Company** | January 2025 - December 2025

- Optimized application performance and automated deployment pipelines, reducing release cycles by up to 35% and saving hundreds of engineering hours annually
- Led research, testing, and validation of a new containerized app, eliminated prior single points of failure, and authored the official HA documentation, becoming the Webapps team SME
- Designed and maintained secure, reproducible internal environments, improving reliability, developer productivity, and QA testing efficiency
- Led, organized, setup and configured IBM Aspera WebApps Products for DISA and STIG Testing for potential Government Entity contracts
- Contributed to key product releases, including HSTS, Aspera Proxy, HTTP-Gateway, OTFV, and Faspex 5 (5.0.0–5.0.14), enhancing stability, high-availability, and customer satisfaction

### **QA Automation Engineer**

**Aspera, an IBM Company** | February 2023 - January 2025

- Implemented automation and parallel testing strategies, reducing QA cycle times by 50% and accelerating release schedules
- Executed comprehensive QA and validation testing across distributed systems, containerized applications, and cloud infrastructure, ensuring defect-free releases
- Developed turnkey test environments that reduced setup time by 50%, improved team collaboration, and enabled timely delivery of high-quality projects
- Ensured software security and compliance by reviewing dependencies and enforcing long-term support (LTS) standards, reducing vulnerability exposure
- Led AWS cloud deployments and implemented CI/CD pipelines with Jenkins, improving deployment reliability and delivery speed

### **QA Engineer**

**Aspera, an IBM Company** | March 2020 - May 2022

- Adept in process improvement initiatives, identifying areas for optimization and implementing effective solutions
- Proficient in defining comprehensive test plans, crafting detailed test cases, identifying crucial use cases, and creating effective test matrices
- Solid expertise including Test Automation, Functional, Regression, Integration, System, Cross-platform, and Performance testing
- Knowledgeable in security and compliance requirements, incorporating them into the QA processes
- Developed and containerized automation scripts using Docker to streamline operational workflows and improve process reliability

## **Software Engineer Apprentice**

**Aspera, an IBM Company** | February 2019 - February 2020

- Selected as the sole apprentice from cohort to receive full-time employment offer upon program completion
- Completed intensive hands-on program specializing in software development, quality assurance, and testing methodologies
- Acquired practical experience deploying, testing, and maintaining enterprise applications in both on-premises and cloud environments
- Contributed to quality assurance processes and test automation development for IBM Aspera products

## **Open-Source Contributor**

**Infoset-ng (Open-Source Project)** | August 2017 - February 2018

- Contributed to design and development of data-gathering application for efficient collection, processing, and analysis of diverse datasets
- Designed and deployed MySQL-based backend infrastructure with connection pooling for high-volume transactions
- Deployed and maintained network monitoring agents, ensuring reliable performance

## **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

**Cloud & Infrastructure:** AWS, Azure, GCP, Kubernetes, Docker, Jenkins

**Programming & Scripting:** Python, Bash, PowerShell

**DevOps & Automation:** CI/CD Pipelines, Infrastructure as Code, Ansible, Terraform

**Databases:** MySQL, MariaDB, MariaDB Galera Cluster, MaxScale

**Security & Compliance:** TLS Certificate Management, DISA STIG, FISC, Security Testing, Secrets Management

**High Availability:** Keepalived, Load Balancing, Blue-Green Deployments

**System Administration:** DNS, Networking, SMTP, LDAP, Active Directory, Linux, Windows Server

**Version Control & Collaboration:** Git, Jira, Agile Methodologies

**IBM Technologies:** IBM Aspera (HSTS, Faspex, AsperaProxy, HTTP-Gateway, OTFV)

## **EDUCATION**

### **IBM Software Apprenticeship**

IBM Apprenticeship Program | February 2019 - February 2020 | Emeryville, CA

### **Certifications:**

- Certified IBM Apprenticeship Program
- IBM Software Engineer Apprenticeship
- Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA) - In Progress

### **California Culinary Academy**

Associates Degree in Culinary and Hospitality Management | May 2005 - November 2007 | San Francisco, CA