Derek Merrikin

(508) 965-8650 | dsmerrikin@gmail.com | linkedin.com/in/dmerrikin | dmerrikin.com

FULL-STACK SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER | UI/ UX DEVELOPMENT | TECHNICAL TEAM LEAD

Senior Software Engineer and Full Stack Web Developer with 10 years of progressive experience as a strong collaborator and highly effective communicator. Track record of delivering value to organizations utilizing best practices, leading by example, and working effectively independently and with a team. An insatiable thirst for knowledge and growth drives excellence and openness to grow through feedback.

TECHNICAL TOOLKIT

Backend: Node.js, Express, JavaScript, Typescript, Python/shell, Pytest, PyTorch, Ruby on Rails, PostgreSQL, MySQL, Stripe, Avalara, RabbitMQ, Celery

Frontend: React, Redux, Next.js, Angular, AngularJS (Angular 1.x), Golang, WordPress Custom Theming and Custom Plugin Creation, PugJS, Typescript, JavaScript, Tailwind, npm, Yaml, PostCSS, SCSS/SASS, HTML5, CSS3, Chrome Extensions, Webpack, Playwright, Jest

Infra, GenAI & Other: JWT, OAUTH, 2FA enforcement, Azure DevOps, AWS (EC2, S3, Lambda, Lightsail), AWS Cloud 9 & K8 (Kubernetes), Docker, Vercel, CI/CD pipelines, Git, Bash, OpenAI GPT-4, GPT-3.5, Function Calling, Kanban, Scrum, Agile, Jira, Jenkins, Performance Testing, Redis, Memcached, Terraform, Network Protocols, Load-Balancing, Ansible, Datadog

Content Management Systems: WordPress Custom Templates and Theming Experience.

Accessibility: WCAG

EXPERIENCE

Senior Software Engineer   **December 2024 – Present**

Eliassen Group Consulting for FM – Johnston, RI (REMOTE)

- Prioritize team efficiency and client satisfaction over individual credit, advocating for shared wins and long-term success.
- Partner closely with product managers, designers, and backend engineers to deliver robust, user-friendly features aligned with fintech industry needs.
- Act as an informal leader, stepping up to fill gaps and lead by example in both technical execution and team collaboration.
- Uplift teammates by recognizing their strengths and promoting their growth, reinforcing a culture of collective success.
- Regularly take ownership of unclaimed or overlooked engineering tasks, ensuring no blockers linger in sprint cycles.
- Conduct detailed code reviews, promoting clean code, scalability, and mentorship across the engineering team.
- Write and maintain comprehensive Jest unit tests to ensure at least 80% code coverage, bolstering confidence in mission-critical features.
- Build and maintain GraphQL hooks that power real-time data flows and transactional interfaces in fintech applications.

- Lead front-end development using React and TypeScript, focusing on performance, accessibility, and seamless financial user experiences.

Team Lead and Senior Software Engineer   **July 2024 – Oct 2024**
GraVoc – Peabody, MA (Hybrid)
- Led two teams consisting of both full-stack MERN/GRAND engineers as well as full-stack LAMP engineers running all 8 of the company's high-revenue driving client projects
- Created a seamless end-to-end experience, migrating a MERN app over to a GRAND stack app
- Coached and mentored team members, growing their skillsets to be multifaceted individuals and take on more responsibilities
- Led the initiative to create an automated Lambda function which wrote JSON logs to an S3 bucket using CloudWatch events
- Managed a dynamic Agile environment without the luxury of project managers or designers, directly interfacing with stakeholders to maintain the highest fidelity of output
- Introduced the team to unit testing with Jest, and DevOps deployment with YAML on GitHub

Technical Team Lead and Senior Software Engineer   **Sept 2023 – Apr 2024**
Easton Consulting Technologies – Miami, FL (Remote)
- Led team of Site Reliability Engineers, overseeing and coordinating the development of 7+ high revenue-driving web products, creating over 250K/ hour in revenue
- Enforced 2FA within all sites
- Re-wrote Voyage Market's site in ReactJS, NextJS and NodeJS
- Coached and mentored team members, facilitating their success and growth within the organization
- Conducted thorough reviews of Pull Requests (PRs) on GitHub, ensuring the code adhered to the highest quality standards
- Managed a dynamic Agile environment, actively participating in daily scrums, and taking responsibility for individual and team tickets, entire epics, and ensuring timely responses
- Successfully led the launch of three redesigned websites, Rocket21Challenge, Fortunes Funding, and The Funded Trader
- Developed and maintained custom WordPress plugins, demonstrating expertise in WordPress and React with Pug
- Acted as the go-to person for all technology-related requests from the VP of Technology and CEO, showcasing a deep understanding of the organization's technical landscape

Senior Software Engineer   **Jan 2023 – July 2023**
Built Technologies – Nashville, TN (Remote)
- Developed streamlined React components within a microservice architecture in AWS Cloud9 and Kubernetes environments
- Integrated OAUTH within the React based application
- Elevated team code quality standards through thorough code reviews and constructive feedback
- Collaborated efficiently within Agile Scrum teams to deliver high-quality software
- Acted as subject matter expert in a complex PHP environment, providing guidance to the team
- Improved code coverage by implementing comprehensive unit tests with Jest across the microservice architecture
- Ensured compliance with WCAG AA accessibility standards
- Contributed to continuous deployment and AC changes utilizing Go CI/CD pipeline
- Improved user experience through use of Datadog troubleshooting

Software Engineer   **Mar 2021 – Oct 2022**
DEPT (digital agency) – Boston, MA
- Created reusable React components with customizable props for enhanced flexibility
- Streamlined financial planning software by leveraging Angular, improving usability, and addressing performance bottlenecks
- Implemented JWT authentication with both Angular and React applications
- Architected and developed a web application for a major crypto organization, enabling future clients to customize branding, utilizing React and Next.js
- Contributed to Agile Scrum teams, collaborating effectively to deliver high-quality software
- Implemented end-to-end tests with Cypress and unit tests with Jest
- Ensured compliance with WCAG AA accessibility standards
- Contributed to continuous deployment and iterative design changes through a CI/CD pipeline
- Utilized SQL and NoSQL Firebase databases within the development stack

Senior UI/UX Developer   **Dec 2015 – Mar 2021**
Fresenius Medical Care – Lexington, MA
- Successfully migrated antiquated site from Oracle's UCM to WordPress using custom Node.js spider and WordPress RESTful API for data injection
- Integrated Bootstrap 4 for improved design
- Developed self-publishing solutions in WordPress for all divisions of Fresenius
- Integrated WordPress login with Microsoft Active Directory for seamless user authentication
- Implemented a hybrid full-stack solution utilizing WordPress as back-end and Angular for front-end
- Resolved security vulnerabilities identified through penetration testing, resulting in significant improvements
- Collaborated efficiently within Agile Scrum teams

Senior UI/UX Developer   **Jul 2014 – Nov 2015**
Fidelity Investments – Smithfield, RI
- Created white-label wizard for branded sales demos, providing clients of Fidelity with customized experiences
- Managed workloads from multiple Agile project teams concurrently, coordinating daily scrums
- Fostered camaraderie and collaboration within teams, contributing to increased productivity
- Developed full-stack MEAN solution for Executive Vice President, facilitating efficient management of business data

Lead UI/UX Developer   **Jun 2013 – May 2014**
Medullan, Inc. – Cambridge, MA
- Developed scalable healthcare portals for major healthcare insurance agencies
- Created custom WordPress solutions tailored to client needs which met WCAG AA standards

EDUCATION
- Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science, Southern New Hampshire University, 2020