Kenneth J. Vella Jr.

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SUMMARY

Platform Engineer passionate about digital and cultural transformations with over 7 years of Kubernetes experience. Seeking a company that will challenge me to contribute skills and passion for learning new technologies in order to improve value for customers and productivity for employees. Hands on working knowledge within multiple cloud providers and a background in application development, infrastructure provisioning, operations scaling, maintainability, and security.

- Designer and implementer of deployment and operations for cloud native applications on Kubernetes
- Migrate, refactor, and coordinate on-premises application stacks to cloud for cost savings and scalability
- Secure and implement Zero Trust for applications, workflows, and users to improve security posture
- Influence culture change through metrics, monitoring, and alerting to improve feature speed to market

SKILLS

- **Cloud** GCP, AWS, OCI, Azure ● **Languages** Golang, Shell, Bash, Python, Kotlin, Java, JavaScript, SQL ● **Technologies** Kubernetes, GKE, EKS, OpenShift, etcd, Docker, Harbor, cert-manager, external-secrets, HashiCorp Vault, Argo Workflows, ArgoCD, Longhorn, Spring, Micronaut, Apache Kafka, Ansible, Liquibase, JPA, Hibernate, JDBC, NodeJS, RESTful, SOAP ● **Database** Elasticsearch, MariaDB, PostgreSQL, MSSQL, H2, DB2 ● **Web Design** HTML, CSS, React, NextJS, Angular, Thymeleaf ● **IDE** Vim, Tmux, IntelliJ ● **Operating Systems** UNIX / Linux, Windows ● **Application Servers** Tomcat, Netty, Websphere ● **Networking / Security** pfSense, Cloud DNS, CoreDNS, external-dns, PiHole, Envoy, Traefik, Kong, Nginx, MetalLB, LinkerD, Wireguard, iptables, OPA, Gatekeeper, k8s-image-swapper ● **Source Control** Git, AccuRev ● **Monitoring** Prometheus, Grafana, Splunk, Jaeger, FluentD ● **Testing** K6, Ginkgo, Selenium, RPT, QTP, JUnit, Mockito, Spek ● **Tools** Helm, Helmfile, Terraform, Makefile, Kubebuilder, Controller Runtime, GitLab, Jenkins, Gradle, Maven, Ant, PIP, NPM, Ivy, Slack, JIRA, Confluence, Mediawiki, SSMS

WORK EXPERIENCE

Quavo, Inc.   February 2019 to Present
Wilmington, Delaware
Cloud Systems Engineer, Contractor, Consultant

- Design and guide infrastructure team to transition from VM based deployments to Kubernetes runtime
- Provision and administer firewall / VPN solution for developer network on AWS
- Automate VPN client distribution for workstations via Microsoft Azure Intune
- Implement SSO solution for AWS resources using Azure IdP

The Wendy's Company   February 2022 to Present
Dublin, Ohio
Cloud Systems Engineer, Contractor

- Develop Helm charts and Kubernetes Operators to enhance developer experience
- Administor Gitlab and troubleshoot issues for developers
- Establish Developer SDLC with a focus on speed to market
- Manage GCP IAM by implementing RBAC and Workload Identity
- Automate Gitlab runner provisioning via Terraform on GKE
- Design and build self managed workflows for Docker and Terraform on top of Kubernetes
- Architect private cloud networking between applications, databases, and cloud services
- Promote and implement Chaos Engineering across all environments
- Execute Cloud Native applications in production on ephemeral infrastructure

Galileo Insights   February 2022 to Present
Royal Oak, Michigan
Principal Platform Engineer

- Design and build GCP runtime platform and delivery pipeline
- Convert ClickOps management of Auth0 configuration to GitOps managed via Terraform

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ArborMetrix, Inc. April 2020 to February 2022

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Infrastructure Architect, Senior DevOps Engineer

- Setup Kafka on Kubernetes via Strimzi Operator with Keycloak Authorization for clients
- Build Kubernetes Operators to handle RBAC automation for team self service
- Create platform for applications with service mesh via LinkerD and distributed tracing via Jaeger
- Configure common Oauth2 Proxy middleware for client Authentication / Authorization via Traefik
- Build monitoring stack for logs with ELK and metrics with Prometheus; visualization in Grafana
- Setup and administer HashiCorp Vault including secret engines, authentication, audit logs, and backups
- Manage DNS Hosted Zones for application name resolution with TLS certificates
- Provision AWS authentication for applications via IAM Roles for Service Accounts
- Implement and maintain multiple EKS environments in Terraform with version upgrades
- Integrate open source tools to create a deployment pipeline and runtime stack running on spot instances
- Mentor and assist with team member questions on new tooling
- Collaborate and establish SDLC for company use
- Establish a Git first approach to infrastructure configuration

Auto-Owners Insurance Company December 2009 to April 2020

Delta Township, Michigan

Senior Software Developer

- Design, develop, load test, and maintain a customer facing proposal J2EE web application
- Translate business requirements into efficient, maintainable, and scalable software
- Automate build and deployment of artifacts for testing and production environments
- Maintain and coordinate source control changes among multiple development teams
- Monitor, diagnose, and support production issues
- Research and evaluate new technologies to integrate into existing environment
- Design and implement software delivery pipelines using CI and CD principals
- Create educational tools, mentor, and assist peers to help them grow their technical career
- Create, manage, and version internal APIs for consumption throughout lines of businesses
- Convert batch ETL processes into real time streaming ETL processes with integrated telemetry
- Break apart monolithic applications on VMs into microservices running on a container platform

CONFERENCES

KubeCon + CloudNativeCon North America	Chicago, IL - November 2023
KubeCon + CloudNativeCon North America	Detroit, MI - October 2022
UberConf	Denver, CO - July 2018
Central Ohio Software Symposium	Columbus, OH - April 2017
ArchConf	Fort Lauderdale, FL - December 2015
Central Ohio Software Symposium	Columbus, OH - June 2012

EDUCATION

Michigan Technological University

Houghton, Michigan

B. S. in Computer Science