KEVIN J. RICE

Software Engineer · AI-Native Developer · 35+ Years · Python, Perl, C/C++

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SUMMARY

B.S. Computer Science software engineer / developer with 35+ years of highly technical agile app dev, devops, data engineering, and architecture work, primarily in Python, Perl, and C/C++. Fully invested in Claude/AI dev cycles: planning, skill creation, architecture, and implementation using AI toolsets. Currently co-founder of a stealth AI startup, building agentic AI RAG document search, and an autonomous self-improving massively-parallel "dark factory" build system.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

PRIMARY LANGUAGES: Python (20+ years), Perl (5 years), C (10 years)

ANCILLARY LANGUAGES: SQL / NoSQL, Java, C++, Cobol, Ada, Assembler, misc.

AI TOOLSETS: Claude, Codex, Grok thru VS Code & GitHub Copilot for app dev work doing iterative planning, code gen, skills and instructions construction, optimization. Architecture work. Dark factories, Ollama LLMs, Apache AGE, pg_vector, pg_textsearch for various RAG apps.

PLATFORMS: Linux, Win32, AWS, GCloud, Mac, AIX, Bash, Zsh, PowerShell, Solaris, Embedded

DATABASES: MongoDB (7 yrs), Postgres (7 yrs), Snowflake (1 yr), BigQuery (1 yr), many yrs of: Oracle, Sybase, MySQL, Informix, SQLite, DB2, Cassandra, SQL Server, Memcache, Redis, etc.

NETWORKING: Firewalls, Load Balancers, Routers, NAT, sockets, DHCP, TCP/IP, POP3, PPP, cabling, security, authentication & authorization, SSL / TLS.

DEV TOOLS: Copilot, Git, GitHub, GitLab, BitBucket, Jenkins, Docker, VS Code, Sonar, Postman

OTHER SOFTWARE: GCP, GCloud, AWS (S3, EC2, Lambda, ECS), BigQuery, Airflow, Cloud Composer, PySpark, Django, FastAPI, Flask, Pytest, Graphite, OpenNMS, Splunk, Twisted, Nginx, Apache, F5 Load Balancers, Robot Framework, LAMP, mod_perl, MS Office, JMX, Awk, Korn, Bash, Zsh, Unix shells, sed, emacs, vi, VAX VMS DCL, Norbert, PGP, Lawson.

INDUSTRIES: Retail, Financials / Capital Markets, medical, Construction accounting, Credit, Consumer Electronics, Military, Education, Petrochemical, Insurance, Telecom, HR, Publishing.

APPLICATIONS: ETL Timeseries/monitoring, REST, Financials, E-Commerce, micro-services, infrastructure, web dev, InfoSec, embedded real-time, banking, consumer electronics, telecom, industrial control systems, turbomachinery, recruiting, version control tools & processes, crypto.

Full employment history: https://justanyone.com/KevinJRiceEmploymentHistorySummary.docx

EDUCATION

B.S., Computer Science, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, 1992

EXPERIENCE / WORK HISTORY

Co-Founder
Aug 2026 – Present

Stealth AI Startup, Chicago, IL (remote)

- Architected, designed, and built with code-gen in Python a RAG doc store, MCP REST Web frontend, and hybrid pg_vector / pg_textsearch with Apache AGE.
- Built true-horizontal scale self-improving Dark Factory build system.

  Environment: *Python, Bash, AI code-gen on Claude, Codex, and Grok (Fable/Astra typically), MCP, Docker, InfoSec, Hermes, OpenClaw, Ollama, Qwen, Gemma 4, PostgreSQL, pgvector, Apache AGE graph DB, pg_textsearch, OpenTelemetry, Tailscale, Prometheus, Markdown document conversion.*

Sr. Software Engineer
Feb 2026 – Aug 2026

Bank of America (Apex Consulting), Chicago, IL (onsite)

- Python InfoSec on internal email malware detection/triage: added features and remediated security scan findings. Some by hand, mostly code-gen with Copilot claude / GPT.

- Migrated an app and its tests from Django to FastAPI; mentored the team on AI; created skills/instructions for several projects.
  Environment: *Python dev/gen with GitHub Copilot (Opus/Sonnet/etc.), PyCharm and VS Code for Django and FastAPI, behave and pytest-BDD, Bitbucket, many tools.*

Sr. Software Engineer Dec 2021 – Feb 2026

Cognizant, Inc., Chicago, IL (remote)

Software engineering in Python on various projects:

- Duke Energy: workflow automation using AWS Lambdas in Python (POC/MVP)
- Capital One: ETL Python AWS Lambda work supporting SWIFT/Fedwire payments processing automation (ISO 20022 migration)
- Chewy Brands: quick-win data engineering maintenance in AWS Snowflake
- UK National Health Service: migration from Python 2.6 to 3.6 across a 400k-line codebase
- Macy's: retail gift registry migration from mainframe to AWS, quick-win
  Environment: *GitHub Copilot, AWS, Linux, Snowflake, REST APIs, Ansible, VS Code, Git (GitHub, GitLab), Jenkins, Docker, Python 2.6, 3.6 to 3.12, MS PowerShell*

Data Architect Mar 2021 – Dec 2021

Zoro / Grainger, Chicago, IL (remote)

- Data engineering on ETL processes, incl. Python architecture and dev of product data for online retail on GCloud.
  Environment: *GCloud, Airflow, BigQuery, GCP, Composer, Spark, MongoDB, Git, Docker, VS Code, macOS, Python 3.6+*

Sr. Developer Jul 2020 – Mar 2021

Zipari (Synergy Consulting), Brooklyn, NY (remote)

- Python architecture, dev, and maintenance of a B2B and B2C Django app hosting medical insurance industry clients.
  Environment: *Python, Django, REST APIs, Postgres, Git, Docker, PyCharm, VS Code, Mac*

Sr. Developer Aug 2019 – Jul 2020

PNC Bank (Indotronix Consulting), Chicago, IL (remote)

- Python backend dev, Django automation. DevOps server provisioning in in-house datacenters.
  Environment: *Python, Django, MongoDB, MySQL, Git, Agile, VS Code, Python 3.6*

Sr. Software Engineer Aug 2018 – Aug 2019

Bank of America (Apex Consulting), Chicago, IL

- Python architecture, dev, and maintenance on capital markets deal aggregation processes.
  Environment: *Custom Python DB, custom BofA toolsets (Quartz/QzDev) and databases ("Sandra"), Agile, Python 2.7 to 3.7 conversion*

Senior Software Engineer Mar 2018 – Aug 2018

Engine Media Group, Inc., Chicago, IL

- Python 2.7 and 3.7 Lambda functions; business analysis and specifications, doc-writing; infrastructure and InfoSec / security analysis.
  Environment: *AWS, AWS Lambda, Route53, S3, EC2, diagnosis, some Bamboo, MySQL, NodeJS, Git, Mac/Brew configuration*

Principal Software Engineer Apr 2012 – Feb 2018

Sears Holdings, Inc., Hoffman Estates, IL

- Python DevOps: team lead, architecture, coding, and maintenance monitoring all 12,000 Sears servers
- Architect and technical team lead for a team of 8 developers
- Scalability: grew enterprise-wide metrics collection, storage, and display from 1M to 15M metrics/minute
- Created a new MongoDB (v2.4 to v3.4+) data warehouse accessible via Django / Graphite
- Sat on the 25-person corporate infrastructure architecture committee, incl. SHC migration to AWS
  Environment: *Linux, Python, MongoDB, Flask, Kafka, Git, Twisted, Nginx, Graphite, Ceres, OpenNMS, Splunk, Django, F5, Cassandra. Some Windows/AIX/Solaris.*

  [Contract consultant for 3 years, full-time employee 3 years]

Software Engineer Aug 2011 – Apr 2012

Nokia / Navteq Garmin (Consultant), Chicago, IL

- Created Python libraries used by Robot Framework test scripts
- Wrote and architected QA automation suites for newly developed code (Java JMX and others)
  Environment: *Linux, Python, Perl, Win32 Python, Robot Testing Framework, JMX, svn*

Lead Trade Support Analyst
Jun 2010 – Aug 2011

Citadel Corporation, Chicago, IL

- Trading desk support operations role (handled 6% of the U.S. equities and options markets)
- Perl and Python development/design of trading desk automation, incl. troubleshooting FIX protocol lines and back-office systems and processes
- Set up new FIX lines and certified new clients' dataflow
- Rewrote compliance FINRA OATS processing of equities flow
- Built several internal websites (Python Django and mod_perl) using Sybase

Environment: *Linux, Python, Perl, Windows 7, Sybase, FIX, OATS, Django, ksh, bash, svn, capital markets, financials*

Senior Software Engineer / Architect
Feb 2005 – May 2010

Textura Corporation, Deerfield, IL

- Employee #5 of a now-publicly-listed 200+ employee construction industry corp doing B2B ASP / SaaS
- Python architecture, design, and coding of large portions of the main app in a small team, working closely with business analysts
- Highly Agile weekly releases using TDD unit and functional tests
- Extensive use of SQLObject and SQLAlchemy ORMs connected to Postgres, hand-coding complex SQL when needed for optimization
- Heavy OO design and development, incl. business analysis, coding, data conversion, and deployments
- Fitnesse (functional) and Nose (unit) testing frameworks
- Linux (Ubuntu and Red Hat) system administration, documentation

Environment: *Linux, Python, Postgres, Apache, SQLAlchemy, ACH payments, e-signing, automated legal docs, sysadmin, svn, RHEL, TDD Agile, construction*

Lead Application Developer
Apr 2002 – Jan 2005

BankOne / JP Morgan Chase, Chicago, IL

- Architected and developed a Capital Markets Risk financials data warehouse whose dataflows went to CEO Jamie Dimon and the JPMC Board of Directors; wrote 40,000 lines of Perl doing ETL of 350+ files into Sybase (migrated to Oracle)
- Technical lead on several teams (2 to 5 developers)
- Developed 2,000+ lines of VBA and 3,000+ lines of complex SQL to extract data into Excel
- Wrote 2,000+ lines of Visual Studio .NET C# code
- Extensive capital markets options and derivatives data handling of greeks data
- Put Linux/Perl open source into the bank's mainstream

Environment: *Solaris, Windows, Apache mod_perl, Win32 OLE, SiteMinder, capital markets financials*

Senior Software Architect / Developer
May 1993 – Apr 2002

Consultant, various companies, Des Moines, IA and Chicago, IL

- Created a Single-Sign-On-enabled website so UBS clients could buy bonds online
- Wrote version controls at Sears.com for a 140+ person team, easing a QA nightmare (1999)
- Automated a stock exchange clearinghouse's data entry process, reducing 2.5 headcount
- Discovered $250M savings for Sears Credit Card through improved credit scoring
- Implemented IBM's Net.Commerce, getting Borders.com online faster with increased efficiency
- Helped college students afford loans with a Student Loan app showing predicted payments
- Created a publisher's magazine subscription website, vastly increasing international subscriptions (CGI in C, Java, and even Cobol!)
- Data migration for a mail-order pharmacy in Cognos PowerHouse 4GL, Cobol, and C/C++
- Real-time embedded C PID controller for a turbocompressor gas pipeline (2 yrs, full-time)
- Sysadmin for defense contractor Logicon (Ft. Leavenworth War College), worldwide, 1 yr
- Coding, QA, documentation, and other technical project work at several other locations

Environment: *Perl, C, C++, Java, Cobol, Solaris, Windows, Linux, Oracle, Sybase, DB2, MySQL*

AFFILIATIONS / PROFESSIONAL LINKS

- Member, Chicago InfraGard InfoSec group since 2017 (https://Infragard.fbi.gov)
- Have traveled to (& eaten in) 24 countries and 46 US states.
- Github: https://github.com/justanyone
- LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/kevinjrice
- Stack Overflow: https://stackoverflow.com/users/977162/kevin-j-rice
- Personal Website: https://justanyone.com (since May, 1999)