



# Zach Callahan

SysAdmin turned Software Engineer

## ABOUT ME

I'm currently working as a Software Engineer, but I was previously a System Administrator and prior to that I excelled in retail operations. Automation and tooling are my passions. My goal is to make my and my team's jobs easier today than they were yesterday. Bash and Go are the languages I use most often, but I'm always looking for new tools to add to my toolbox. I'm a *mostly* self-taught developer/sysadmin and I've been working with Linux in some capacity daily since 2006. I'm an advocate of open-source software and protocols and I believe that the best solutions are the ones that are built by a community.

Prior to my career transition into tech, I worked in retail management for 9 years, most recently as a General Manager for a Love's Travel Stops and as an Assistant Manager for Walmart prior to that. Working in retail, and especially in management, taught me a great deal about people and how to work with them. I'm a firm believer in treating people with respect and valuing their contributions. Everyone has at least one strength and I pride myself on identifying and developing those strengths in my team members. Being an individual contributor hasn't dulled that sense of responsibility. Whether I'm working on a team or working alone, I always strive to leave things better than I found them.

During my time working retail, I also served in the Arkansas Army National Guard as a Combat Medic. I found my time in the military to be a great learning experience and I'm proud to have served my country. I learned a great deal about leadership and teamwork, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to have served. I was honorably discharged in 2017.

If I'm not working, I'm probably spending time with my girlfriend and our three dogs. I enjoy tinkering with computers and electronics, so I'm always looking for new projects to work on. On occasion, I teach a Git class at the **Arkansas Coding Academy**.

## TOP SKILLS

ADVANCED	<b>Go</b>	EXPERT	<b>HTML/CSS</b>	ADVANCED	<b>Kubernetes</b>	EXPERT	<b>Docker</b>	EXPERT	<b>Linux</b>
EXPERT	<b>Bash</b>	ADVANCED	<b>Technical Writing</b>	ADVANCED	<b>Git</b>	PROFICIENT	<b>AWS</b>		
ADVANCED	<b>Terraform</b>	PROFICIENT	<b>TypeScript</b>	PROFICIENT	<b>Svelte/SvelteKit</b>				

# WORK HISTORY



## Software Engineer

January 2022 - Present

Go    Kubernetes    Docker  
Linux    Bash    AWS  
Terraform    TypeScript  
Vue    Protobuf    gRPC  
Git    Scala    Bitbucket  
Jira    Confluence  
CodePipeline    CodeBuild

I work in the R&D department, where I work with a team of engineers to build new products and features for our customers. The day-to-day technologies change and I'm often given the freedom to explore new technologies for our projects. The projects I work on are primarily written in Go and make heavy use of Kubernetes and AWS. In addition to those projects, I created a polyglot notebook application that glues together Netflix's polynote project with Databricks for easier data-engineering workflows. On my team, I'm known as the unblocker for my ability to troubleshoot quickly. I've also put a lot of effort into improving team tooling for productivity and I've written several scripts to automate setting up a new developer's environment.



## System Administrator

April 2021 - January 2022

Linux    Bash    Git  
Docker    Kubernetes  
Terraform    TypeScript  
OpenShift  
Red Hat Enterprise Linux    AIX  
Gitlab    Java    Web Security  
NodeJS

I was a member of the infrastructure team and I was primarily tasked with caring for the runtime environments of many external and internal applications, consisting of Tomcat and WebSphere servers running on a mix of AIX and RHEL hosts on Power 9 hardware. I was also one of the key team-members responsible for maintaining the company's ecommerce platform. Between these duties, I helped automate the company's migration process from CVS to Git and spent a great deal of time working with CI/CD pipelines on our internal Gitlab instance. I also developed helm charts and build pipelines for our internal Openshift environment, mainly focused on the logging and observability stacks.



## Travel Stop General Manager

September 2017 - April 2021

Leadership    Training  
Budgeting    Mentoring  
Scheduling    P&L  
Inventory    Payroll    HR

I was responsible for the day-to-day operations of a 24-hour travel stop. I was responsible for managing a staff of 20-30 employees, including hiring, training, and scheduling. I was also responsible for managing the store's budget, including payroll, inventory, and expenses. I had ~10 managerial direct reports, including assistant managers, shift leaders, and profit-center managers and I was responsible for their training and development.



## 68W10 (Combat Medic)

November 2011 - November 2017

Leadership    Training  
Mentoring    Medical Reporting

I was a combat medic in the Arkansas Army National Guard. My primary focus at all times was the medical readiness of my unit. I assisted with the training and development of my unit's medics and I was responsible for the medical reporting of other medics in my section during field operations. During garrison operations, I was responsible for maintaining the unit's medical equipment and supplies.



## Assistant Manager

October 2008 - September 2017

Leadership      Training  
Budgeting      Mentoring  
Scheduling      P&L  
Inventory      Payroll      HR  
Merchandising

I was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the departments I managed. I managed a staff of 10-15 employees, including hiring, training, and scheduling. I was also responsible for managing my portions of the store's budget, including payroll, inventory, and expenses. I had anywhere from 2 to 5 department managers reporting to me, depending on my assigned departments. I was responsible for their training and development as well as for merchandising and maintaining the appearance of their departments.