Matt Kelly

554 Paterno Drive, Harleysville, PA 19438 ✤ 215.960.5197 ✤ matthew.ryan.kelly@gmail.com

Managing Staff Software Engineer
⌘ Audacious vision for high-level abstractions ⌘ Big picture systems thinker
Product-minded decision maker ⌘ Mentor at heart with a penchant for teaching

LANGUAGES: Ruby, Python, Javascript, Go, Clojure, Lua, Fennel, Sindarin, FORTH, C#, `[ba|z|fi]sh`, Quenya, QBASIC
TECHNOLOGIES: Rails, AWS, Kuberbetes, ArgoCD, PostgreSQL, Redis, Kafka, Airflow, Memcached
TOOLBELT: VS Code+Neovim, iTerm2, tmux, Obsidian, Talon Voice, Hammerspoon, `:(){:|:&};:`

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Relevant Experience

MANAGING STAFF SOFTWARE ENGINEER/TECH LEAD *AdHoc - VA.gov (Washington, D.C. [Remote]) 2023 – Present*
Audited and modernized all Veterans Benefits APIs, aligning them with industry best practices, security standards, and performance benchmarks ⌘ Led the architecture and execution of a large-scale migration, consolidating multiple legacy API modules into a high-performance, greenfield Ruby on Rails API-only platform ⌘ Designed and implemented a zero-downtime CI/CD pipeline from scratch, leveraging GitHub Actions, ArgoCD, and Kubernetes, ensuring strict compliance with federal NIST security mandates for PII/PHI ⌘ Spearheaded the transition to fully automated, containerized deployments, dramatically improving release velocity, system reliability, and infrastructure scalability in a high-stakes government environment.

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER *NexHealth (San Francisco, CA [Remote]) 2022 – 2023*
Resuscitated an ancient Python 2/Django app and ported it to Ruby on Rails ⌘ Untangled a hairy, ten year old, diamond dependency ⌘ Fixed a mountain of broken tests, bringing the test suite green for the first time ever.

SENIOR BACKEND SOFTWARE ENGINEER *Weedmaps (Irvine, CA [Remote]) 2019 – 2022*
Built a greenfield, inhouse, ad-server at scale with Ruby on Rails ⌘ Worked tightly with AR to build and integrate custom accounting software for performance based ad sales ⌘ Conducted over a hundred interviews ⌘ Thwarted spammers with hand rolled naive bayesian ML models ⌘ Leveraged Apache Airflow to automate meta-tagging of all incoming S3 objects, ensuring compliance and discoverability ⌘ Stopped delivery driver muggings using AI facial recognition.

SOFTWARE ENGINEER *Comcast (Philadelphia, PA) 2017 – 2019*
Principal architect of MOXIE, an Ruby on Rails application enabling bulk querying of customer PII at all levels of network topography. ⌘ Enterprise-level security ⌘ Aggregated and collated seven disparate databases traversing billions of rows ⌘ Architected ETL pipelines to handle ingestion into data warehouses with Kafka for high-throughput event streaming ⌘ Query optimization for ingesting data on the petabyte scale. ⌘ MOXIE is still in use today

LEAD SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT ENGINEER *Curtiss-Wright (Hatfield, PA) 2014 – 2017*
Spearheaded the design, architecture, and testing of custom quoting software built to spec with Ruby on Rails. ⌘ Project has since grown in scope and now constitutes more than half of the sales pipeline. ⌘ Delivered on time and significantly under budget (OSS <3) ⌘ Seamlessly integrated with the company's existing CRM software and an ancient copy of MS SQL Server 7.0 -- Still in use today

FIELD SERVICE ENGINEER *Curtiss-Wright (Hatfield, PA) 2013 – 2014*
Supervised heat exchanger repairs on nuclear and conventional power generation plants and petrochemical/agricultural refinement facilities. ⌘ Served as a consultant and supervisor for numerous nuclear plant overhaul operations. ⌘ Became the first software engineer in the company's history ⌘ Developed a complete sales pipeline in C# for the service department. ⌘ Identified and prevented the implosion of legacy software due to operating system enforced file size limits.

NUCLEAR ENGINEER *United States Navy (USS Philadelphia SSN-690) 2003 – 2009*
Served 4 years on a fast attack submarine. ⌘ Provided continuous supervision for up to ten personnel including mechanics, electricians, and reactor technicians for the safe and efficient operation of a nuclear power plant. ⌘ Coordinated and oversaw all engineering watchstanders during reactor plant operations from startup to shutdown status. ⌘ Provided training to junior personnel on plant operations ⌘ Collateral duties included serving as Gage Calibration Officer, Training Officer, and Quality Assurance Officer.

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Education
⅏ **EXCELSIOR COLLEGE (ALBANY, NY)** *B.S. Nuclear Engineering Technology 2013-2017*
⅏ **NAVAL NUCLEAR TRAINING COMMAND (CHARLESTON, SC)** *2003-2004*

Glowing references available upon request