

Josh Symonds

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Go ● Kubernetes ● AWS ● Terraform ● GitOps ● LLM Orchestration ● Observability

EXPERIENCE

● Attain

Director of SRE, Consumer Product

Remote — Santa Barbara, CA

Mar 2026 - Present

- Reliability & Operations: Own reliability, incident response, architectural standards, developer experience/ tooling, and compliance (SOC 2, PCI) for Attain's consumer fintech platform. Building and leading the SRE function for consumer engineering: team, strategy, and operational excellence.
- AI Enablement: Own AI enablement for consumer engineering. Building the infrastructure and context architecture that makes a large fintech monorepo AI-ready at the platform level — layered documentation systems, agent skill frameworks, and progressive context disclosure patterns that turn AI-assisted development into a first-class engineering capability.

● CrossnoKaye

Senior Manager, Core Services / Principal Infrastructure Engineer

Santa Barbara, CA

Jan 2021 - Feb 2026

- Go Services & Tooling: Built production Go services and CLI tools using Goa: K8s service proxy, BDD end-to-end testing framework, and unified developer CLI - tools used daily across a 30+ microservice platform.
- GitOps & Platform: Architected Flux CD infrastructure across multiple AWS EKS clusters for an industrial IoT platform with real-time monitoring, AI diagnostics, and edge computing. Owned environment promotion and rollback patterns.
- Infrastructure: Built Terraform modules for EKS, IAM, ECR, and Route53. Deployed self-hosted PaaS and ChatOps deployment bot. Integrated Tailscale and WireGuard for edge networking.
- Edge Platform: Built OS-level deployment framework for IoT agents: custom k3os distro with automated provisioning and Flux CD for GitOps to edge. Led migration to Talos Linux for improved security.
- LLM Enablement: Created weekly "Cooking with LLMs" workshops teaching engineering org to leverage AI tools. Built Core Services function from scratch: operating model, governance, and cross-org sponsorship.

● Capital Markets Gateway

Senior DevOps Engineer & CISO

Chicago, IL

June 2019 - Dec 2020

- Kubernetes: Built custom operators, Helm charts, and multi-region failover on Azure AKS. Deployed Istio for mTLS and canary deployments.
- Security: Designed NIST CSF and ISO 27001 programs. Passed audits by major financial institutions. Wrote custom Terraform providers.

● M1 Finance

Chief Information Security Officer

Chicago, IL

Aug 2015 - Oct 2019

- Zero to Scale: Built greenfield AWS infrastructure that scaled M1 from zero to over a million customers and billions in AUM. Owned all deployment pipelines, CI/CD, and production systems.
- Kubernetes: Deployed and operated bare-metal Kubernetes clusters. Led migration to AWS managed EKS when it became production-ready.
- Security Program: Built M1's security program from scratch. Implemented SOC 2 controls, handled incident response, managed vendor assessments.

● Symonds & Son

Founder & President

Chicago, IL

2011 - Present

- LiveWorld: Infrastructure consulting for enterprise social media platform. Manage EKS, Terraform, and observability stack. Led Ruby 3 migration across 3 production Rails apps (60k+ LOC).

PROJECTS

- [Savecraft](#)

Go, TypeScript, Cloudflare Workers, WASM

Open-source MCP server connecting game save files to AI assistants. Go daemon watches saves and executes sandboxed WASM plugins (wazero); Cloudflare Workers serve structured game state via MCP tools over OAuth 2.1. Supports 6+ games including Diablo II, MTG Arena, and Stardew Valley. Apache 2.0 licensed at github.com/joshsymonds/savecraft.gg.

EDUCATION

- [University of Chicago](#)

BA in East Asian Languages and Civilizations

Chicago, IL
2001 - 2005