

Brian VandenAkker

Worcester, MA | [GitHub](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | 774-280-6969 | brian.m.vandenakker@gmail.com

Summary

Entrepreneurial GenAI Engineer with over 5 years of experience developing complex software products from concept to delivery. Brian has delivered full-stack AI applications to a leading research institution, led AI education initiatives to improve understanding and adoption of these new technologies, architected important AI solutions which will drive AI innovation and enable success in a fast moving environment, and automated data pipelines. With a deep technical knowledge of GenAI, years of military service, extensive training in economics and mathematics, and a passion for solving difficult problems, Brian has brought valuable and a diverse set of skills to many teams.

Professional Experience

Aquila Technologies at MIT Lincoln Laboratory | *GenAI Engineer*

January 2025 – Current

- Early AI applications engineer which pioneered GenAI adoption at the lab.
- Deployed internal LLMs and developed end-to-end applications to provide thousands of researchers secure access to the latest AI solutions.
- Designed part of a new course on Artificial Intelligence taught at the lab and lectured 50 lab researchers on the current state of agentic systems.

MetaPhase Consulting | *Data Engineer*

August 2020 – January 2025

- Designed, developed and delivered various reporting solutions for important agricultural data on a highly visible government website with over 100 thousand annual visitors which provides useful and high interest agricultural trade and production data to inform the world on US trade and global production of agricultural products.
- Designed database schemas and APIs which increased query performance and load times from ~2-3 seconds to fractions of a second and provided more useful and relevant data.
- Automated various ETL processes across 4 government agencies, saving hundreds of hours of manual data migrations per year and enhancing data accuracy by improving reliability and timeliness.

United States Marine Corps Reserve | *Assistant Intelligence Chief*

May 2013 – June 2020

- Served a dual role as the Assistant Intelligence Chief and Platoon Sergeant for a Battalions Intelligence Section which is typically held by someone two ranks higher in grade than myself.
- Responsibilities included the daily management and guidance of 10 Intelligence Specialists in support of the Battalions intelligence requirements, maintaining expert situational awareness of our areas of operation and accounting for over \$2.4 million worth of equipment.

Languages, Technologies, Databases & Tools

Languages: Python, TypeScript, SQL

Databases: PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Redis, Neo4j

Technologies: React, Django, Flask, GraphQL, Relay

Tools: LangChain, LlamaIndex, MCP, A2A

Projects

Things Past | *Founder*

Things Past is a cloud storage provider and social network designed to upload old family photos and videos to share and discuss with family and friends. The platform combines Google Photos with Ancestry and adds a modern user experience which allows users to securely save and share memories.

West End Firewood | *Software Engineer & Consultant*

As a small family business, West End Firewood needed to improve its online presence and increase sales in direct B2C transactions. We modernized the website and improved SEO performance which grew online traffic to hundreds of users per week and helped increase orders by over 100% and drove over \$500k in annual revenue. We also developed a CRM which reduced delivery times by an average of 3 days, eliminated over 10 hours of administrative work per week, optimized delivery routes and automated invoice generation.

Education

Boston College

Master of Science in Applied Economics

Chestnut Hill, MA

GPA: 4.00

Merrimack College

Bachelor of Arts in Economics & Minor in Mathematics; Summa Cum Laude

North Andover, MA

GPA: 3.96