

Jonathan Gardner

Principal Cloud Architect

Contact Information

Address: 6517 167th PL NW, Stanwood, WA 98292

Phone: (832) 588-0072

Email: jonathan@jonathangardner.io

LinkedIn: linkedin.com/in/jonathangardner

Website: jonathangardner.io

GitHub: github.com/jgardner04

Professional Summary

Principal Cloud Architect with 20+ years building platforms that improve cloud systems for millions of users. Build distributed systems and integrate AI capabilities to solve operational challenges, from microservices migrations, reducing infrastructure costs by 40%, to RAG systems automating processes from hours to minutes. Expert in Azure ecosystems, Kubernetes orchestration, and applying modern technologies to create business impact.

Technical Skills

- System Design - Architecture Patterns - Microservices Architecture - Event-Driven Architecture - API Design
- Cloud Architecture - Infrastructure Planning - Technical Documentation - Large Scale Architecture - High Availability - Performance Optimization - Scalability
- Azure OpenAI Integration - Retrieval-Augmented Generation - Cognitive Services - Machine Learning Platforms
- Azure - Kubernetes - Docker - Containers - Redis - Terraform - Bicep - Azure DevOps
- Azure Storage - Blob Storage - Persistent Volumes - Storage Performance Optimization
- SQL Server - PostgreSQL - Cosmos DB - NoSQL Data Stores - Kusto (KQL) - Azure Data Explorer
- Azure Monitor - Prometheus - Grafana - Microsoft Entra - Identity Management
- Python - C Sharp - JavaScript - Golang - Node.js - Next.js - Git

Certifications: PMP, MCSE (Cloud and Data Platform), MCSA (SQL Server), Azure Specialist

Professional Experience

Microsoft, Principal Technical Program Manager

Seattle, WA, May 2024 - Present

- Built RAG system for automated action item generation, reducing processing time from 4 hours to 5 minutes across 200+ Azure executive meetings, saving over 100 engineering hours per quarter.
- Run quality and deployment programs across all Azure organizations (Azure Core, Azure Data, Core AI). Influenced standards for software deployment, configuration management, build health, and testing that teams now use company-wide.
- Work directly with Executive VPs and Corporate VPs on \$100M+ platform investment decisions.
- Integrated Azure OpenAI with quality programs, cutting critical customer incidents 30% and avoiding \$15M in SLA penalties..

Microsoft, Principal Cloud Solution Architect

Seattle, WA, November 2021 - May 2024

- Design and build cloud architecture solutions for Microsoft's largest enterprise customers. When Fortune 100 companies need to move complex applications to Azure, I create the technical strategy and build the systems that make it work.
- Built Azure Terraform components used by thousands of customers for infrastructure deployment. Designed microservices architectures that cut infrastructure costs 40% and increased revenue 15% for 3 Fortune 100 clients.
- Created the Cloud Migration Factory program - reusable blueprints and patterns now used across Microsoft's global field teams. Led architecture redesigns that improved transaction speeds 25% (moved SAP systems from synchronous calls to pub/sub patterns).

- Managed technical feedback pipeline from 1000+ field engineers to Azure product teams. Set technical standards for customer input that shaped Azure product roadmaps.

Microsoft, Senior Software Engineer

Seattle, WA, July 2017 - November 2021

- Worked on AzureCAT, Microsoft's engineering team that handles complex problems for the platform's largest customers across the entire Azure stack.
- Contributed to Azure Fundamentals program, helping define platform standards that Azure services must meet before General Availability.
- Fixed critical outage affecting 2.5M connected vehicle users. Redesigning architecture with scale units and credential caching.
- Built custom Kubernetes resource provider for storage performance testing. Enabled enterprise customers to run distributed Spark jobs across clusters.
- Created foundational concepts for Azure Chaos Studio to solve customer resilience testing needs. Shaped Microsoft's chaos engineering platform.
- Worked directly with GSI partners (Accenture, Deloitte, EY, PwC) to implement solutions for Fortune 500 customers during post-sales engagements.

Microsoft, Technical Solutions Professional

Seattle, WA, September 2014 - July 2017

- Built Azure ARM templates for common deployment patterns, published to GitHub. Used by Microsoft partner teams for standard deployments.
- Wrote 36 blog posts covering Azure deployment patterns and DevOps best practices.
- Built training programs for 350+ Microsoft partners covering Azure architecture and deployment strategies.

Previous Experience

- **Geocent, Infrastructure Practice Manager**
New Orleans, LA, July 2012 - September 2014
- **Insource Technology, Technical Manager**
Houston, TX, June 2008 - July 2012
- **JB Knowledge Technologies, Inc., Director of Technology**
College Station, TX, January 2005 - January 2008

Education

Harvard Extension School, Harvard University

Master of Management (in progress)
2022-2026

Texas A&M University

Bachelor of Technology Management, Minor in Business
2000-2005

Projects

Azure Terraform Provider Components: Created Terraform provider components for Web Server Farms and AKS Landing Zone Accelerator, now used by thousands of customers globally for Azure infrastructure deployment.

Ghost Blog MCP Server: Built an MCP server for direct Ghost blog post management, enabling AI assistants to create and edit blog content through API integration

Awards and Recognition

- Co-author, "Pro SQL Server 2012 Practices"
- Co-leader, Houston SQL Server User Group
- Co-chair, SQL Saturday Houston
- Speaker at national SQL Server and Microsoft events
- Microsoft Organizational Leadership Award, SMSandP