

CHRIS GILDNER

IT Architect • Director of Consumer Technology

Colcord, OK • 479-238-6782 • cgildner@gmail.com • [linkedin.com/in/cgildner](https://www.linkedin.com/in/cgildner)

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

IT Architect and digital commerce leader with 25+ years designing, scaling, and securing enterprise eCommerce platforms. Bridges strategy and execution — building business cases that secure funding, leading cross-functional teams through cloud migrations and platform launches, and shipping consumer products that drive measurable growth. Deep expertise in AWS, Adobe Commerce/Magento, full-stack development, DevOps, and compliance (PCI, GDPR, CCPA). Equally effective in the boardroom and alongside engineering teams.

CORE SKILLS

Leadership & Strategy: Team leadership & mentorship • Strategic planning • Business case development • Vendor & contract management • Budget ownership

Platforms & Product: Cloud architecture (**AWS**) • Adobe Commerce (Magento 1/2) • Shopify • WordPress • API design & integrations • UX strategy • Customer journey strategy

Engineering & DevOps: Full-stack dev (**PHP, Python, SQL, JavaScript**) • CI/CD • Automated testing • Static/dynamic code scanning

Infrastructure & Security: Cloud/network security • Monitoring/observability • Compliance (**PCI, ADA, GDPR, CCPA**) • Analytics & reporting

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Information Technology Architect

DaySpring Cards – Siloam Springs, AR

2023 – Present

- Turned abstract concepts into funded initiatives by designing solutions, building business cases, and presenting technical strategy to senior leadership; delivered POCs that secured budget approval for three major projects.
- Designed AWS network architecture and led cross-functional teams (Marketing, Design, UX, Dev) through full-cycle delivery of an **affiliate program** and **digital courses**.
- Directed one internal and two vendor teams, managing \$500k in hosting and development budgets while reducing costs by 30% and improving delivery throughput.
- Implemented **OneTrust cookie compliance** and integrated static/dynamic code scanning into CI/CD, strengthening security, quality, and regulatory adherence.

Consumer Technology Director

DaySpring Cards – Siloam Springs, AR

2015 – 2023

- Led migration of all consumer sites from managed hosting to AWS cloud infrastructure, overseeing development and hosting of three high-traffic eCommerce platforms, six content sites, and marketplace integrations.
- Built and led a team of three full-stack developers and DevOps engineers; instituted CI/CD practices and operational monitoring that improved deployment frequency and reduced downtime.
- Directed two major platform migrations – from legacy hosting to Adobe Commerce – ensuring continuity for high-traffic consumer sites.
- Directed end-to-end development of high-profile brand partnership platforms for **Hallmark Mahogany** and **Candace Cameron Bure**, delivering eCommerce and content experiences for two of DaySpring's most strategic partnerships.
- Partnered with Marketing, Design, and UX to drive 100% growth in organic traffic, engagement, and conversion across consumer properties.

Founder & Principal

Charis Interactive – Siloam Springs, AR

2005 – 2020

- Boutique consultancy delivering custom **WordPress/Shopify** sites and ecommerce experiences.
- Coordinated subcontractors and specialized in high-end marketing solutions.

Consumer Technology Manager

DaySpring Cards – Siloam Springs, AR

2000 – 2015

- Built and led the development team from the ground up while expanding online presence (content, community, social, commerce).
- Delivered innovative applications including a popular eCard site (> 1M annual shares), HTML5 canvas custom sign builder integrated with eCommerce cart, branching email lifecycles, and flash-sale clearance sites.

EDUCATION

B.A. English Literature

Wheaton College – Wheaton, IL