



CAREER HISTORY

Robert “R. Dale” Brunet

Technology Architect * Software Engineer * AI Strategist *
Entrepreneur * Author

www.RDBRUNET.com – Robert@Rdbrunet.com

(719) 205-6381

This Career History document provides a comprehensive chronological narrative of R. Dale Brunet's professional journey — from his earliest technology work in New Orleans in the 1990s through his current work as a technology architect, AI strategist, and author in Colorado Springs.

Unlike a resume, this document provides context: the circumstances, contributions, and accomplishments that shaped each chapter, and the through-line of skills and drive that connects them all.

Throughout my career, I've been presented with many challenges and opportunities. I consider myself a problem solver and solution provider. My most valued skill: the ability to analyze complex tasks and transform traditional labor-intensive processes into well-organized, productive software application systems.

CHAPTER ONE: AI, PUBLISHING & DIGITAL VENTURES

2024 – Present · Colorado Springs, Colorado

Founder / Technology Architect

Use What You Got Publishing · LifeCapsule AI · DigitalInkAI · NewAudia · Colorado Springs, CO
2024 – Present

After fourteen years in the culinary world, Robert returned to technology — but not to the career he had before. The landscape had changed entirely, and so had his capabilities. Armed with a lifetime of experience building businesses, writing books, and architecting systems, he launched simultaneously into artificial intelligence and digital platform development.

The result was an entrepreneurial burst unlike any prior chapter. Four distinct ventures took shape in parallel, each anchored in a clear market need and driven by his unique combination of technical depth and creative vision.

LifeCapsule AI emerged from a deeply human insight: people have stories worth preserving, but most never get told in lasting form. The platform uses AI to help individuals and families capture, structure, and share their life narratives — creating digital legacies that endure.

DigitalInkAI was born from Robert's dual identity as both a technology builder and a prolific author. The platform serves writers and content creators with AI-powered tools for drafting, editing, structuring, and publishing — bringing professional-grade authorship assistance to a broader audience.

NewAudia, co-founded with a business partner, challenges the traditional audiobook subscription model. The consumption-based pricing approach creates a more equitable relationship between authors, publishers, and listeners — one where value flows from actual engagement rather than flat fees.

Running through all of this, and predating the platforms in many ways, is his publishing imprint Use What You Got Publishing — under which nearly 30 books have been authored and released. Titles span AI strategy (Aligned Intelligence, The Gilded CAiGE, Artificial Intelligence Survival Guide), entrepreneurship, culture, and business innovation. Many of these books directly support and cross-promote the platforms.

Key Contributions

- Designed and launched AI-enabled publishing, legacy-preservation, and interactive audiobook platforms from concept to working prototypes.
- Built multiple live web applications and prototype workflows using modern AI-assisted development environments.
- Created product concepts, business models, messaging frameworks, and user experiences across publishing, media, and software ventures.
- Authored and published nearly 30 books on AI, entrepreneurship, culture, and business innovation while simultaneously building the related digital products.

**CHAPTER TWO: CULINARY
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

2010 – 2024 · Colorado Springs, Colorado

Owner / Operator

Momma Pearl's Cajun Kitchen · Colorado Springs, CO
2013 – 2024

When Momma Pearl's opened its doors, it brought something authentic to Colorado Springs: real Cajun food, crafted with expertise and served with personality. Robert — known to customers and the community as "Chef BB" — built not just a restaurant, but a brand.

For more than a decade, he managed every dimension of the business. Staffing, vendor relationships, menu development, purchasing, budgeting, marketing, and the day-to-day pressures of hands-on operations — all of it fell to him. In a brutal industry where most restaurants don't survive their first year, Momma Pearl's thrived for over ten.

The skills honed during this decade are not soft skills. Managing a business through economic disruption, supply chain chaos, staffing challenges, and a global pandemic requires operational discipline, financial acumen, crisis problem-solving, and leadership under pressure. These are exactly the qualities that define the best technology executives — and they are real.

Founder / Executive Chef

The House Chef of Colorado Springs (U.W.Y.G., LLC) · Colorado Springs, CO
2010 – 2015

Before the restaurant, Robert launched The House Chef — a private-chef and in-home dinner party service that became the seed from which Momma Pearl's grew. In his characteristic fashion, he didn't just cook: he built the business from infrastructure up.

He developed a complete custom software application to manage bookings, inventory, menus, client communications, and reporting. He designed the website, developed the business plan, and handled all marketing and client acquisition. He operated food concessions at The Colorado Springs Event Center and the Ross Auction House, and managed a staff of seven chefs and one event planning manager.

The House Chef ran in parallel with his software engineering career from 2010 to 2015, demonstrating the kind of multi-threaded entrepreneurial energy that has defined Robert's career from its earliest days.

CHAPTER THREE: DEFENSE SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

2006 – 2013 · Colorado Springs, Colorado

Senior Software Engineer

Honeywell Technology Solutions, Inc. (AFSCN / SCNC) · Colorado Springs, CO
2010 – 2011

Robert's work with Honeywell continued the mission-critical trajectory he had established at L-3 Communications. Holding a DoD Secret clearance and embedded within the Air Force Satellite Control Network contract, he served as a software development engineer on one of the most operationally sensitive systems in the defense technology ecosystem.

His primary focus was the Electronic Inter-Range Operations Number (eIRON) Database Change Request System — a web-enabled configuration management platform used by satellite vehicle owners throughout the AFSCN to modify commanding and telemetry settings at tracking stations around the globe.

He contributed to lifecycle management, VersionOne project estimation, requirements gathering, testing, implementation, and product deployment — bringing both technical depth and systems-thinking discipline to an environment where reliability was not optional.

Software Engineer → Senior Software Engineer

L-3 Communications (AFSCN / SCNC) · Colorado Springs, CO
2006 – 2010

L-3 Communications was where Robert's defense career began — and where it flourished. He joined as a Software Engineer and left four years later as a Senior Software Engineer and recognized

technical leader, advancing through the ranks at a pace that earned him a first-year promotion spanning three pay grades.

His most visible contribution was the redesign of the SCNC IRON Tracking System (SITRS) — the satellite configuration management application used by Air Force personnel to manage Inter-Range Operations Numbers across the global network of tracking stations. He rebuilt it with full VBA automation in Access 2007, authored its user manuals, and documented all ARTS interface coordination procedures.

He then originated and led the initiative to web-enable the IRON Database Change Request process — a project that grew into the eIRON system still in use at the follow-on Honeywell contract. He served as Lead Project Engineer through analysis and Phase I prototyping.

Beyond the technical work, Robert was selected for the "Best and Brightest" tiger team to develop a reorganization plan for the SCNC/L-3 Software Engineering division. He also led employee teams that created a New Hire Orientation program, an Employee Mentoring Program, and an in-house Technical Library — contributions that extended well beyond his job description.

Awards & Recognitions at L-3 / Honeywell

- ✓ 1st Year Promotion: Advanced 3 pay grades from Associate to Senior Software Engineer
- ✓ Honeywell Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Software Development — November 2009
- ✓ 3-Time Winner of L-3 Spirit of Excellence Award (2007)
- ✓ 2-Time Winner of L-3 Spirit of Excellence Award (2008)
- ✓ 8-Time Recipient of "Key Player" Peer Acknowledgment Tokens
- ✓ L-3 Corporate Silver Award Bonus on recommendation of Program Manager
- ✓ Dean's List — Colorado Technical University, Spring 2009 (full-time student concurrent with employment)

Software Engineer (Contract)

Agilent Technologies & Compassion International (via TekSystems) · Colorado Springs, CO
2011 – 2013

Following his work with Honeywell, Robert took on two significant contract engagements through TekSystems, both involving complex database migration projects requiring deep technical expertise and careful execution.

At Agilent Technologies, he performed a full data migration from a mission-critical Microsoft Access-based Parts Management and Procurement application to a SQL Server RDBMS. He built the migration scripts, developed data validation tools, created Stored Procedures, Views, and Cursors to replace Access action queries, and provided post-migration support.

At Compassion International, he ensured reliable migration of 93 existing Microsoft Access database applications from Windows XP to Windows 7, converting roughly half of them from the Access Jet database engine to SQL Server. The work required deep familiarity with legacy VBA code, cross-platform behavior, and data integrity under real operational conditions.

CHAPTER FOUR: BANKING & FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS

1998 – 2002 · New Orleans, Louisiana

Senior Application Developer

Whitney National Bank · Harahan, LA

1998 – 2002

Whitney National Bank was where Robert established himself as a serious enterprise application developer. As the bank's de facto Microsoft Access authority, he became the go-to architect for desktop and client-server applications used across departments bank-wide.

The applications he built during this period were not simple tools — they were complex, multi-user, mission-critical systems managing millions of dollars in transactions, thousands of client relationships, and sensitive legal and financial data. Among the most significant:

- WNB Legal Administration Works (WNB-LAW): Required merging 24 separate Q&A databases into one integrated multi-user system. Used by the entire Legal Department, managing over 29,000 clients across 300+ reports.
- WNB Commercial Loan Pricing System: Used by Loan Officers throughout the bank to calculate optimized rates based on a managed cost-of-money matrix and each customer's financial relationship with the bank.
- WNB Acquisition Bank Conversion System: Automated the due diligence and conversion process for new bank acquisitions — managing all conversion activities from main office through branch contracts, invoicing, and billing.
- WNB Trust Management System: Maintained trust fund records for beneficiaries from birth to age 18, tracking deposits, withdrawals, and federally secured bond purchases.

He also established the corporate Microsoft Access user group — an initiative he launched to disseminate advanced programming techniques to departmental program administrators and developers throughout the bank.

CHAPTER FIVE: NONPROFIT & SOCIAL SERVICES TECHNOLOGY

2003 – 2005 · New Orleans, Louisiana

Application Developer / Database Administrator

Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans · New Orleans, LA

2003 – 2005

Before leaving New Orleans for Colorado Springs, Robert brought his database expertise to the social services sector — working as the primary Application Developer and DBA for Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans, one of the largest social service organizations in the Gulf Coast region.

His work here had real human stakes. The applications he built helped track daycare attendance, manage case notes for vulnerable clients, handle HUD reporting requirements, and support IT staff in responding to service requests. He also performed a complex data migration from legacy ABRA/ADP Accounting software to Intuit Fundware.

He designed and built the IT Department Help Desk application — a full-featured, case-based tracking system that replaced ad hoc processes with systematic priority management across users, PCs, service requests, and trouble tickets.

He also initiated enterprise-wide hardware inventory management procedures, establishing a baseline status reporting framework where none had existed before.

CHAPTER SIX: EARLY CAREER & ENTREPRENEURIAL ROOTS

1990 – 1998 · New Orleans, Louisiana

IT Consultant / Application Developer (Multiple Clients)

New Orleans Technology & Creative Sector · New Orleans, LA

1990 – 1998

Robert's career began in New Orleans in the early 1990s, at the intersection of technology and the vibrant cultural economy of one of America's most distinctive cities. He built custom database applications for clients ranging from Mardi Gras parade organizations to the City of New Orleans, from law firms to schools to local businesses — all while holding parallel roles that developed his breadth of experience.

At Mardi Gras Productions, he managed all computer operations — network administration, hardware maintenance, and software development — while also building the company's first fully automated event production management system. He designed and produced the company website, and created a promotional video with 3D computer animation and customer testimonials.

At CitiNET, Inc., he developed and managed New Orleans' first fully interactive virtual reality website — an ambitious early-web project featuring links to restaurants, hotels, and attractions throughout the city. He also built custom websites and database applications for clients including the Downtown Development District, De La Salle High School, Christian Brothers, and the Krewe of Bacchus.

His contract work during this period ranged from a Class Action Tracking System for a law firm, to a Sales Order Processing System for Mardi Gras bead sales, to statistical analysis applications for the City of New Orleans. Each engagement sharpened a different dimension of his capability.

Earlier still, at Connecting Point Computer ResourceCenter, he supervised the CAD/Multimedia division — managing training, sales, purchasing, and presentations while providing consulting services to local businesses seeking multimedia and computer-generated graphics solutions.

EDUCATION & CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT

Lifelong Learner — Formal Studies & Professional Growth

Robert's educational path reflects the non-linear nature of a career built more on doing than credentialing — but grounded by consistent formal study in Computer Science across multiple institutions.

- Nicholls State University, Thibodaux, LA — Computer Science (1977–78)
- University of New Orleans — Computer Science (1981–82)
- Loyola University New Orleans — Computer Science (1983–84)
- Hensmann Technology, Colorado Springs — MCAD Curriculum (2006)
- Colorado Technical University, Colorado Springs — BS / Information Technology, Dean's List (Spring 2009), full-time concurrent with employment at L-3 Communications

His technical foundation includes C#, C++, SQL Server, Microsoft Visual Studio, Microsoft Access/VBA, Excel Automation, Crystal Reports, J-Query, AJAX, XML, ADO, ASP, database application development, web application architecture, and AI-assisted development workflows.

The Through-Line

Defense systems. Banking applications. Social services software. Restaurant operations. AI platforms. Publishing. On the surface, these look like different careers. But look closer and you will find the same person in every chapter — someone who identifies a problem, builds a solution, and executes with precision. The tools have changed. The instinct never has.

rdbrunet.com • robert@rdbrunet.com • (719) 205-6381
