



Kenny Gets Kudos

■ **Sanitation Truck Operator Kenny Fox gets a shoutout.**

PUBLIC WORKS — Kenny Fox — a Refuse Collection Truck Operator with the Bureau of Sanitation and *Alive!* cover subject in May 2005, recently received a letter of gratitude from a customer. The letter was so nice, that we thought we'd reprint it here.

Kenny Fox on the cover of the May 2005 issue of *Alive!*

Good going, Kenny!

"Valentine's Day provides a special opportunity to reflect not just on romantic love, but also on those who enrich our lives throughout the year with their kindness. I cannot let this day pass without sending you a special tribute and thanks to someone in your department who makes me feel special every week just by his thoughtfulness and consideration. Kenny Fox, Refuse Collector, is a physical giant of a man who comes by every Wednesday with a smile and a wave...and a heart far bigger than his physique. Two years ago I was hit by a forklift and there was doubt that I would ever walk again. Going from a life filled with more business and personal activities than I could ever fit into day's schedule to total confinement in a wheelchair for months, was an almost intolerable physical and psychological adjustment. Determined that this accident would not be the defining event of my life, I needed to establish some achievable goals each week. I started maneuvering around my property to clean long-neglected, reachable areas — both for exercise and mental stability. Every week the arrival of Kenny and his big green truck and my empty trashcan was a sign that somehow my efforts — no matter how painful and trivial by prior standards — were validated. Suddenly losing mobility changes one's entire life, and it was a long time before I could hobble to the curb to tell Kenny how much I appreciated him and his weekly wave and smile. Knowing that I am still plagued by medical appointments and another looming surgery, Kenny still takes the time to make sure my trash receptacle is set onto the edge of my driveway, rather than left in the street...an act unnoticeable to passersby, but I know it is his way of showing he cares and that he realizes how important his kindness was, and still is, to the recovery of a stranger who now considers him a valued friend."

— Phyllis Daugherty, Los Angeles

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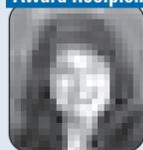


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