

Top auto mechanic is BLIND!



Larry Woody says he lets his fingers be his eyes when working under the hood

'I look with my hands ... so much of it is done by feel anyway'

ACE mechanic Larry Woody would gladly bet that he could fix your car blindfolded — and he'd win because he already makes a good living repairing autos without the benefit of eyesight!

"I look with my hands," says Woody, 46, of Cottage Grove, Oregon. "So much of it is done by feel anyway."

Woody lost his eyes five years ago after a trucker lost control of his tractor-trailer and collided with the mechanic's little Toyota, smashing both the man and the car to smithereens. It took doctors more than seven hours just to rebuild Woody's crushed face, including inserting fake plastic eyes into his sockets.

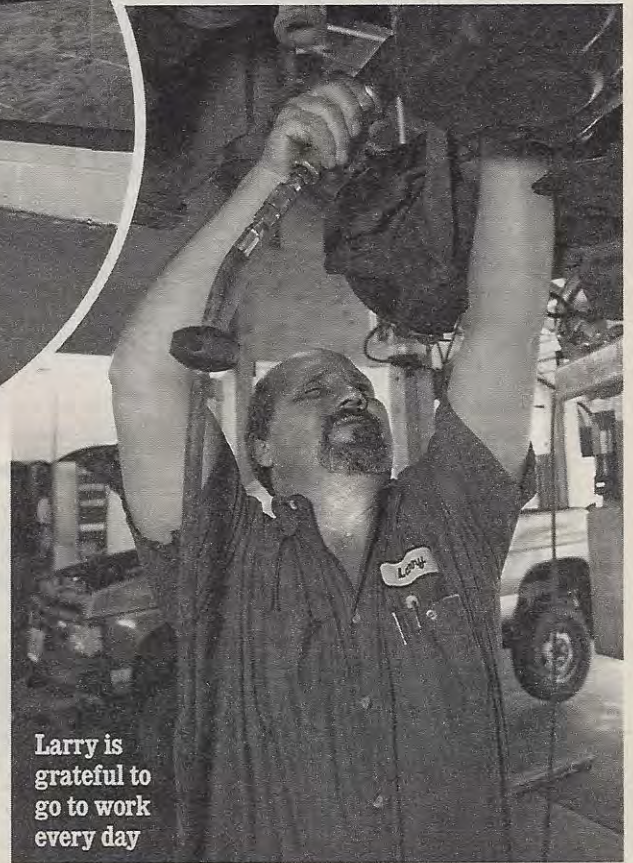
Only a year later, Woody returned to work at his shop, D&D Automotive, with the support of Della, his wife of 30 years. He



Blind mechanic Larry takes a stroll outside his auto shop

reads repair manuals in Braille but rarely uses his white cane at work because he knows the layout as well as he knows his way around engines.

"There's been little things here and there, like when I put the stereo in — oops! — upside down," says Woody. "But while some people whine: 'Man, I've GOT to go to work today,' I always feel like: 'Wow, I GET to go to work today!'"



Larry is grateful to go to work every day