

It was Thursday, February 12th 2015, Frankie Brown, Cal-Maine truck driver from Bethune, South Carolina, woke up earlier than usual. He figured he might as well come on into work even though it was about an hour ahead of his normal schedule. It was a crisp chilly morning with the temperature in the mid-thirties. At 4:15am Frankie headed out for his deliveries. He decided to take a shortcut out to the Interstate. He rarely took that route, but something inside just seemed to compel him to go that way.

As Frankie got closer to the Interstate he saw something in the road. Not being close enough to see clearly, at first he thought it was a small animal. But as he got closer he realized it was a small child standing waving in the middle of the road. She appeared to be about 3 years old clad in a tee shirt and shorts with only socks on her feet.

Immediately Frankie called 911 to report the situation and get instructions on what he should do. As he turned the truck around on the bridge above the Interstate, he saw the child coming toward him still walking in the middle of the road. The 911 dispatcher instructed Frankie to put the little girl in the cab of the truck where it was warm and wait for a sheriff deputy to arrive. About ten minutes later the deputy came and took the little girl to the sheriff's office to enable them to track who she was and notify her relatives that she had been found wandering in the middle of the road in the wee hours of the morning.

Frankie's fast action in calling 911 and rescuing the little girl could very well have saved the life of a child that cold winter morning in South Carolina. Frankie doesn't want any personal accolades for his heroic action because he believes God was in control of his actions that morning. Waking up earlier than usual, going into work earlier and taking that shortcut were out of the ordinary circumstances. Frankie says,

"As a Christian and Christ as my Lord and Savior I know Jesus is in control of all events. As a believer we should always give God the honor and glory and give praise to him for working in our lives to accomplish his will. As Christians we are commanded to help the less fortunate and the down and out. Also to defend those that are helpless such as this little girl for she is God's creation, just as you and I are. I hope this story of God using His servant encourages and inspires those of you who read this. I pray that this story will encourage and inspire people that Jesus loves them"

Frankie's quick action and dedication to save this helpless child is inspiring. As a result of his inspirational story, Cal-Maine has created the Inspiration Awards program, recognizing individuals who have been an inspiration to us all. Frankie Brown is the first recipient of the Cal-Maine Inspiration Award an announcement of the award was made at the 2015 Summer General Managers' meeting in Jackson. Frankie's name is engraved on a plaque which hangs in the lobby of Cal-Maine's corporate offices in Jackson, Mississippi.