



Ron

Corydon Goodwill Employee

Wherever Ron goes, Eddie follows. Ron, an employee at the Corydon Goodwill store, awoke seven years ago to find that he had lost his vision overnight. His retinas had become detached with no warning and no clear medical explanation. Over the next few years, Ron went through multiple surgeries with little success and worked hard to rebuild his life. He was matched up with his “soul mate” of sorts, his seeing-eye dog Eddie. He learned braille which became a necessity in order for him to carry out every day activities. Ron is completely blind in one eye and has 20% vision in the other but he doesn’t let it stop him from living life, with Eddie a constant by his side.

“Before he started working at Goodwill Bridge-Pointe Services, Ron would ask himself ‘Am I ever going to be worth anything again?’”, says his wife Barbara, also an employee at the Corydon store. After 30 years as a truck driver, Ron was immediately thrown into a world with unexpected challenges and no job. Starting out as a volunteer, Ron eventually asked the manager if he could apply for a full time position.

Once on the job, the manager worked with Ron to help him adapt to his surroundings and learn the store in and out. “The management team and other employees have always been so supportive of me and Eddie,” says Ron. Eddie has his own bed beside Ron’s work station and enjoys being on the job. “He thinks he should be out front greeting the customers,” says Ron. “Not back here.”

Everyday, Ron comes to work with a fresh perspective, ready to work toward his goals and displaying an attitude that will melt your heart. And of course it doesn’t hurt to have the most popular employee by your side all day. When asked to describe his job and his fellow employees he needed just one word – “family”.

