

# We know truckers are tough, but seriously...

*a true story*



Truckers come with a can-do attitude. They don't like to leave a job undone or unfinished. These are honorable traits to be sure. But are there times when a job should be left undone? Let's consider a scene from *The Avengers*\*:

The demigod Loki believes himself invincible until the Hulk slams him all over the ground, calling him a "puny god." Most of us have believed we are invincible until some Hulk comes along.

The Hulk for one 35-year-old waste haul driver was a water-soaked king-sized mattress. It was near the end of his shift and he needed to collect the waste from a four-yard dumpster at an apartment complex. A resident had discarded a mattress set near the dumpster, which subsequently became water-logged in the rain. The driver believed he needed to get the mattress in the dumpster before getting the load into his truck. He got the box springs in, but wrestling with the mattress proved to be too much.

A painful back injury and lost time from work is how the story ended. It would have been okay to leave the job undone, to have reported it to his employer and made the customer comply with company policy. We are only human after all.

## Tips to live by

### DRIVERS

- Report unsafe conditions to your employer. Refuse to lift overly heavy loads.
- Use mechanical devices to lift whenever possible.

### EMPLOYERS

- Train your workers to report unsafe conditions and to refuse unsafe work.

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\* Marvel Worldwide, Inc.

Publication No. 90-132-2013 November 2013

Produced by the Trucking Injury Reduction Emphasis (TIRES) Project with funding in part from CDC/NIOSH grant U60 OH008487.