

My Dad Owned a Trucking Company

Written by Darleen Reed

A major part of my life has been spent in or around trucks and the trucking industry. My Dad owned a small intrastate trucking company in New England. During school vacations and summer breaks I would often pack a lunch and spend the day riding in trucks with drivers who didn't mind my tagging along or sit in the company office intrigued by the paperwork involved with each pick up and delivery.

While in college, I married an owner operator who hauled interstate and I learned a whole new facet of the trucking industry. I was exposed to log books and related regulations and found a great interest there. During the years of raising our family, we owned logging and landclearing businesses running several trucks and trailers hauling logs and woodchips throughout New England.

In 1988 we moved to Florida and my husband went back over the road again. When our youngest son went out on his own, I went to a local college and obtained my CDL. That achievement is among my most rewarding. My husband and I drove as a team for a period of time but neither of us enjoyed the hectic schedule and demands of team driving and chose not to make that our chosen path.

Following driving, I worked as an Orientation Director for one of the nation's largest trucking firms and enjoyed that position very much. However, I received an offer in

log auditing and compliance and felt that I wanted to pursue my interest in that area. I did in-house log auditing for several years and found it to be both challenging and rewarding working with the drivers and log book violations. I just loved the job and wanted to get more involved in that aspect of the industry. So, in 2003, I formed my own company which is now Road Tracking Services, LLC (www.logbookhelp.com). I do log auditing for trucking companies and have accounts spanning from 10 drivers to 150 drivers. I also handle driver file maintenance for some of those accounts. Through the convenience of today's technology and shipping options, I am able to service companies from around the country and meet their specific needs and schedules.

My most recent endeavor is writing a book titled *Logbooks Made Simple* which was published in late 2008. It is a tool for anyone involved with log books and log book compliance regardless of their experience level. It covers most federal log book regulations with explanations and examples in simple terminology. I am very excited about this venture and I believe that the book will be a great help to many. My driving experience has been a great asset to my career and I am grateful for that time and for the awareness that it invoked regarding the responsibilities of life on the road.

I started on the trucking path as a young girl and I just love the fact that I can still be on that path so many years later.



Darleen Reed, Road Tracking Services and author of Logbooks Made Simple