

The Man Behind the Red Suit

I have always had a way with children, probably because I never really out grew being a child myself. My love of children is one reason why I started considering becoming Santa. But it's not that easy. You can't become a Santa just because you're a big guy with a big beard – it takes much more – it's a labor of love.

It all started when I borrowed a very nice Santa suit from a very dear friend and mentor. I had some pictures taken and sent out my Santa resume. I also bleached my hair for the first time. What a scary experience! Suddenly I really did look like Santa. Now, children and adults always stop me when I'm shopping or out and about. Being Santa is the most fun I ever had in my life!

The look of surprise and wonder in a child's eyes and face, not to mention the grownups watching them – it all keeps the tradition and the magic alive and real.

I now plan on being Santa 365 days a year.

Being Santa does something to your heart and soul.

Sincerely,

Richard Cockrell

aka Santa Claus