

Please check which category you are nominating this person for:

	Advocacy	An individual or organization that has exhibited outstanding advocacy efforts on behalf of people with disabilities in the City of Portland
	Community Inclusiveness	An individual, organization, or program that has made a significant effort to include people with disabilities in the community in the City of Portland
X	Lifetime Achievement	An individual that has spent a significant portion of their life working to improve the accessibility and inclusivity of people with disabilities in the City of Portland
	Transportation	An individual or organization that has worked to improve the accessibility of the City of Portland in regard to transportation issues
	Youth Achievement	An individual under the age of 25 either with a disability or who has contributed to the disability community in a way that promotes inclusivity and awareness in the City of Portland

Name of Nominee: SCOTT LAY Phone: 503.252.7464

Address: This award would be presented posthumously with Scott having passed away on July 31st of this year. Scott's wife, Shawn Boa is aware of this nomination and would be the person accepting on his behalf if selected. Her address: Shawn Boa - 2200 NE 136th Ave Portland OR 97230

Email: Shawn Boa's email address: sboa@mac.com

Name of Nominator Tina Treasure, State Independent Living Council(SILC) Executive Director on behalf of the SILC Phone: 503-945-6621 Work or 503-580-1629 Cell

Email of Nominator: Tina.M.Treasure@state.or.us

In one page or less, please tell us why this individual, organization or program should be honored with the 2009 "Making a Difference" in disability award in the category for which you are nominating them.

Some ideas of things to share could include:

- How has the nominee worked to advocate for the disability community?
- What impact or observable change has occurred due to their efforts?
- An example or story that highlights why the nominee should be honored.

Dear Selection Committee: This was all on 1 page, but I increased the font, so it is now on 2 pages. Teckla

Nomination of SCOTT LAY for the "Lifetime Achievement" Award

Upon Scott Lay's passing on July 31st of this year, the one thing everyone that knew him or benefited from his Scott's friendship, work and unending passion could say was that indeed his life was an illustration of "lifetime achievement". One of Scott's essential beliefs was that employment is a fundamental aspect of community inclusion and self esteem for all people, including people with disabilities. Scott grew up in Mollalla and early each summer would dive into the Mollala River - until in 1969, about a week after graduating from high school and a week before his induction into the armed services, the annual dive ended with a C5/6 fracture to his neck and a spinal cord injury, resulting in quadriplegia. That day started Scott's lifelong focus on creating integration, accessibility and employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Scott obtained his Bachelors of Science at Portland State University (PSU) and then earned his Masters in Public Administration. At PSU, he served as the Coordinator of the "Handicapped Information Program", and joined the Board of Directors of Access Oregon, a new Center for Independent Living in Portland. In serving as a member and later Chair of this board, Scott participated in many activities that helped establish the Independent Living movement in Oregon. Due to his success in promoting disability issues, Scott was appointed by the Governor to the Oregon Disabilities Commission and later elected to serve as Chair. In 1990, the Oregon Paralyzed Veterans gave Scott an award for his work and in 1993, he was honored as the "Disabled Oregonian of the Year" for his efforts to increase employment of Oregonians with disabilities. Scott's work was recognized by national advocates with whom he joined to draft legislation which was the impetus of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act. He was in D.C. for the signing of that law, as well as the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Scott's intellect and charisma led him to research and impact numerous state and federal legislative action, Oregon Administrative Rules, policy development and implementation. People always enjoyed Scott's involvement, regardless of the stance he had to take on an issue. Consumers felt privileged to work alongside him and well represented by him when they weren't present. Even those on the receiving end of Scott's tenacious advocacy, respected him, his knowledge, common sense and engaging personality. He was an integral writer of Oregon's Employed

Persons with Disabilities (EPD) program, the first of its kind in the nation to allow people with disabilities to go to work, earn money, contribute to the economy, and 'buy' insurance from Medicaid. Now, in some form or another, most states have Medicaid "buy-in" programs through which thousands of people with disabilities overcome one of the major work disincentives. From 2001 to the time of his death, Scott's work and life was centered around removing all types of disincentives to work ; he was involved first as an employee and then as an advocate and consultant to Oregon's Medicaid Infrastructure Grant (MIG). Through this work, Scott assisted in developing model services, policies and procedures as well as conducting education and outreach, all to promote the use of benefits planning and other methods of assisting people with disabilities to work, live and enjoy life like their non-disabled peers.

In addition to his systems advocacy and work building administrative infrastructure, Scott helped his peers see that they could open doors for themselves. He had an inherent gift for talking with people with disabilities and opening their thoughts and beliefs to the possibility of attaining employment and community inclusion. At the celebration of Scott's life, countless consumers recounted their experience of having Scott take the time to talk with them about options for employment and independence, sharing information and encouraging them to realize they could go to work and that 'having a disability' didn't mean they were relegated to impoverishment.

For the hundreds of those that were fortunate enough to know and love Scott, there are thousands more that either have or will, benefit from his work, his passion, his tireless resolve and unwavering belief in the potential of people with disabilities. Scott's lifetime achievement was his belief in himself and his ability to instill in his peers, belief in themselves.