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# Heroes of Open Source

2019-10-21 BY GENE

We all know the names of the open source software people, upon whose shoulders we stand. They are the vaulted elders, the innovating pioneers who wrote the languages and operating systems upon which we subsist.

Those of us writing software are not doing so in a vacuum.

I want to call out those working today who *help* our open source software exist. They are the testers and users who effectively communicate feature suggestions, mystery defects and crucial answers.

This weekend I got two bug reports about code of mine that needed some mechanical attention. Not only did the reporters tell me that something went wrong, they suggested what happened. This is vital to the survival of my software. I was, and am thrilled to have this information, because I seem to love fixing things of mine. Anyway...

My point is that I could name names, but really I am talking about all of us who help this ecosystem exist. And in particular, *communicating testers rock*. They are some of the the first-responders of our digital world.

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