FORWARD AIR CORP Form SC 13G/A February 10, 2004

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

#### SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. 01)\*

Forward Air Corporation
(Name of Issuer)
Common Stock
(Title of Class of Securities)
349853101
(CUSIP Number)
December 31, 2003
(Date of Event which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

[X] Rule 13d-1(b)
[ ] Rule 13d-1(c)
[ ] Rule 13d-1(d)

The information required on the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

<sup>\*</sup> The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

### SCHEDULE 13G CUSIP No. 349853101

<ol> <li>Names of Reporting Persons.</li> <li>Kayne Anderson Rudnick Investment Management, LLC</li> <li>I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only).</li> <li>95-4575414</li> </ol>			Rudnick Investment Management, LLC	
	2.	Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)  (a) [ ] (b) [ ]		
	3.	SEC USE ONLY		
	4.	Citizenship or Place of Organization		
		Is A California Limited Liability Company		
Number of Shares Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person With:		5.	Sole Voting Power 1,614,537	
		6.	Shared Voting Power	
		7.	Sole Dispositive Power 1,614,537	
		8.	Shared Dispositive Power	
	9.	Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person 1,614,537		
	10.	Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions) [ ]		
	11.	Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9)		
		7.52%		
	12.	Type of Reporting Person		

IA

Item 1.					
	(a)	Name of Issuer			
		Forward Air Corporation			
	(b)	Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices			
		430 Airport Road Greeneville, TN 3774	5		
Item 2.					
	(a)	Name of Person Filing			
		Kayne Anderson Rudnick Investment Management, LLC			
	(b)	Address of Principal Business Office or, if none, Residence			
		1800 Avenue of the Stars, Second Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067			
	(c)	Citizenship	07		
	, ,	-	liability company		
	(d)	is a California limited liability company  Title of Class of Securities			
		Common Stock			
	(e)	CUSIP Number			
		349853101			
Item 3.		If this statement is filed pursuant to §§240.13d-1(b) or 240.13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a:			
	(a)	[ ]	Broker or dealer registered under section 15 of the Act (15 U.S.C. 780).		
	(b)	[ ]	Bank as defined in section 3(a)(6) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).		
	(c)	[ ]	Insurance company as defined in section 3(a)(19) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).		
	(d)	[ ]	Investment company registered under section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C 80a-8).		
	(e)	[ X ]	An investment adviser in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E);		
	(f)	[ ]	An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with \$240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);		
	(g)	[ ]	A parent holding company or control person in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G);		
	(h)	[ ]	A savings associations as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813);		
	(i)	[ ]	A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3);		
	(j)	[ ]	Group, in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).		

## Item 4. Ownership. Amount beneficially owned: (a) 1,614,537 (b) Percent of class: 7.52% Number of shares as to which the person has: (c) (i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote 1,614,537 (ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote (iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of 1,614,537 (iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following [ ]. Instruction: Dissolution of a group requires a response to this item. Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person Not applicable Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company Not applicable

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group

#### Item 10. Certification

Item 8.

Not applicable

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

**Identification and Classification of Members of the Group** 

#### **SIGNATURE**

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: February 5, 2004

By:/s/ Ralph Walter

Ralph Walter

Title: Managing Committee Member, COO