

SCDOT mourns the passing of two maintenance employees in August

Two SCDOT employees passed away in August. One while on the job and another on his way to work.

Dennis Moore of Richland Maintenance passed away on Aug. 24, 2022, after collapsing from an apparent heart attack while working with a ditching crew.

Moore was nearing retirement and was known as “Bo Diddly” to his Richland Maintenance team mates. His dedication to his family, both at home and at Richland Maintenance, was evident to all who knew him. He leaves behind a wife and was a loving family man to his children and grandchildren.

On Aug. 25, 2022, while on the way to work, **Lethaniel Gathers** passed away after he struck a tree that had fallen across the road. Gathers served as the Resident Maintenance Foreman for the Hot Crews in Charleston Maintenance and had been with SCDOT for more than 23 years.

Gathers has been described as a “Rock Star” by his colleagues in District 6 and was a great role model for many. He leaves behind a loving family and will be deeply missed by all.



ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

Deputy Secretary for Engineering Leland Colvin places flowers during a ceremony at SCDOT Headquarters on Aug. 26, 2022, to honor the two fallen employees.



Long-time D7 Engineering Administrator Samuel ‘Dean’ Campbell passes away

Samuel Dean Campbell, 89, of Orangeburg, S.C., passed away peacefully at his home on Monday, Oct. 3, 2022. He was the husband of Rozanne Ayers Campbell for more than 62 years.

Campbell was born in Columbia, the son of Charles Dean Campbell and Lula Mae Bridges Campbell. After graduating from Orangeburg High School, he attended Clemson University and earned a degree in Civil Engineering. Following his service in the Korean War, he began his engineering career in Charleston. Shortly thereafter, he returned to Orangeburg and served as the District Engineering Administrator for SCDOT District 7 for more than 47 years.

Some of his past colleagues honored his memory with recollections of his influence and impact on District 7.

District Traffic Engineer **Ems Baskin** wrote: “Mr. C was a character, totally ‘old school.’ His influence on me was good and like a mentor. Although his directness scared many people, I came to appreciate, respect, and learn from it. He had an obvious wit and humor. While he was a tough boss, I learned much from him. I think he was a living example of loyalty, leadership, and no-nonsense devotion to his work. The district was molded and shaped to be high quality with lots of proud accomplishments under him more so than anyone I know. His long tenure in charge, of course, had some bearing on that. My favorite answers from him to questions about why we



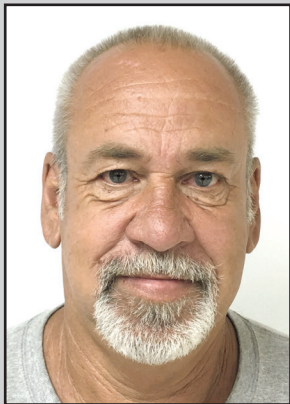
Dean Campbell

couldn’t do something on the job were ‘Nah’ with a chuckle, ‘When you get to be DEA then you can decide,’ and ‘Let’s vote on it’ knowing that he got 2 votes to your 1. Chewing on his cigar was his trademark.”

District Maintenance Engineer **Efrem Dantzler** commented on Campbell’s lean operating style and the fact that he was well known by everyone.

Campbell was a member of First Baptist Church where he served as a Deacon. He was predeceased by his parents, his brother Dr. Roy Campbell, his sister-in-law Robin Campbell and his brother-in-law Gelzer Sims.

DEATHS



Ronald K. Dunaway

Ronald Keith “Kebo” Dunaway, 62, SCDOT retiree from Waterloo, died July 29, 2022.



Lethaniel Gathers

Lethaniel Gathers, 52, of Charleston Maintenance, died Aug. 25, 2022.



Dennis Moore

Dennis “Bo Diddly” Moore, 65, of Richland Maintenance, died Aug. 24, 2022.



Shirley Smith

Shirley Fulmer Smith, 74, SCDOT retiree from Gaston, died June 5, 2022.



Terry T. Smith

Terry Thomas Smith, 62, SCDOT retiree from Gaffney, died June 23, 2022.

Daniel Walter Blakely, 66, SCDOT retiree from Spartanburg, died Oct. 2, 2022.

Samuel Dean Campbell, 89, former District 7 Engineering Administrator, died Oct. 3, 2022.

Charles E. Vliet, 63, retiree from Isle of Palms, died Oct. 16, 2022.

Fred Earl “Ted” Walker, 84, a retiree from Greenwood, died Oct. 7, 2022.

William Oscar “Bud” Weathers, 90, a retired maintenance foreman from Bowman, died June 26, 2022.