

Employee's daughter gets a special wish

SCDOT Richland Maintenance employee Timothy Gibson got to spend some precious time with his daughter Rachael and his wife, Allison, on a Caribbean cruise in August.

The trip was granted by Make-A-Wish® South Carolina. The organization, with the help of dedicated donors and volunteers, grants the wishes of South Carolina children with life-threatening medical conditions.

When Rachel was referred to Make-A-Wish, Midlands volunteers met with Rachael to determine what Rachael's one true wish was. Sixteen-year-old Rachael said, "I wish to go on a Caribbean Cruise."

So the Make-A-Wish staff and volunteer Midlands Regional Team Leader Gary Linn (also an SCDOT employee) got to work to make her dream come true.

They coordinated with the family to get passports, a wheelchair accessible van and other necessities lined up for the families trip which

started on Aug 22.

"This wish will give precious time back to Rachael and her family. It will be a period of family bonding without the worry of doctors, appointments or wondering what the next day brings.

That is why these wishes are granted. To create hope, strength and joy that will last a lifetime.

Make-A-Wish® South Carolina grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. Make-A-Wish South Carolina has never turned a qualified child away and granted 156 wishes last year, averaging three wishes a week. The chapter receives funding through private donations, individuals, companies and special events.

If you would like to help make wishes come true for kids like Rachael, please visit <http://sc.wish.org> to find out more about volunteering or to donate.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Timothy Gibson, left, and his wife, Allison Gibson, pose with their daughter, Rachael. Rachael was recently granted a wife from the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

David Lorick serves 50 years at SCDOT



By Pete Poore

If you are an SCDOT employee born after 1964, it might interest you to know that one of your colleagues has been on the job before you were born. This past spring, C. David Lorick reached the 50-year mark in his service to SCDOT and the state of South Carolina.

He came to work for the agency in 1964 in the Road Design Section. He served well in Road Design until he retired after 30 years in 1994.

Retirement did not sit too well with Lorick. He returned to SCDOT by

taking a job in the Property Management section of Rights of Way in 1995 as a part-time employee, where he used his engineering skills in a different venue. He became a full-time employee in Property Management in 2008. Currently he is a Right of Way Agent II and considered to be a dynamic and integral part of the team.

The West Columbia resident has seen many changes at SCDOT over the years, not the least of which has been transitioning from drafting in pencil and ink to electronic design on the AutoCAD. A team player, he's always been willing to share his vast knowledge and experience



ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

Some of Lorick's coworkers joined him at the SCDOT Commission meeting on Aug. 20, 2015, where he was recognized for his 50 years of service. Shown above, from left: Laura Alexander, Christene Wright, Kathryn Copeland, David Lorick, Chris Johnston and Jean Barnes. During the meeting, the commission read a resolution and Acting Secretary of Transportation Christy Hall presented him a letter from the governor.

with many SCDOT employees who are always grateful for his help.

Outside of his work at SCDOT, Lorick has a passion for cars, particularly a 1957 red and white Ford. Once upon a time, he'd run home at lunch just to wash his pride and joy. The car is long gone, but not the 45 rpm record player he rigged under the dashboard long before anyone thought of eight-tracks, cassettes, CD players or XM Radio.

Lorick prides himself on being the family auto mechanic, handyman and gardener. He loves music, especially Christmas music and his church, Shandon Baptist. He's married to Sandra Lorick. The couple has a son Scott Lorick and a daughter, Windi Sheltra.

The SCDOT family congratulates David Lorick on his 50th anniversary working for SCDOT and we look forward to many more years.