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Vought Employees Wed at Work

Co-worker officiates ceremony in front of BLACK HAWK cabin

DALLAS, FEB. 15, 2010 – Two employees of Vought Aircraft Industries were married last Friday during their lunch break, surrounded by co-workers.

The ceremony uniting Duane Tway and Rene McClure took place in front of a BLACK HAWK helicopter cabin and was officiated by co-worker Bryan Duffy, an industrial engineer. “All of our friends are here. Vought is our family,” said McClure.

Tway and McClure are both inspectors for Vought on the BLACK HAWK program and have worked here together for the past three years. It was during skills training that the two got to know each other, had their first date and fell in love. That was on Feb. 12, 2007. They thought it only fitting to celebrate that day with a wedding, with their “family,” and in front of the aerostructures that sealed their fate together.

Tway and McClure weren’t always Vought inspectors, though. Their lives took a frightening turn of events, and it took a lot of perseverance to get the couple to their BLACK HAWK altar. On July 9, 2008, they were in a motorcycle accident that left the two of them in a coma for several months. McClure had one leg amputated at the knee, and Tway lost a thumb. “It was a long journey for them,” said Gilbert Mata, their supervisor. “We thought they might not live to talk about it.”

McClure says she is very grateful for her job. “Vought went out of its way to find both me and Duane positions on the BLACK HAWK program after the accident,” she said. “Gilbert has been here for us throughout it all.”

The BLACK HAWK cabin was decorated with white roses for the ceremony. Duffy stood atop the steps and faced the couple as he officiated. The bride wore a denim skirt and a white silk blouse. The groom and best man wore denim blue jeans, white shirt and black vest. They removed their matching white cowboy hats for the ceremony.

Serving as matron of honor was Gaye Kortegast, who works in benefits at Vought and is McClure’s aunt. Co-worker John McAfee served as best man.

Photos were snapped, congratulations were passed, and then the bell rang signaling the end of lunch break and time to go back to work.

Vought Aircraft Industries, Inc. (<http://www.voughtaircraft.com>) is one of the world's largest independent suppliers of aerostructures. Headquartered in Dallas, the company designs and manufactures major airframe structures such as wings, fuselage subassemblies, empennages, nacelles and other components for prime manufacturers of aircraft. Vought has annual sales of approximately \$1.8 billion and about 6,000 employees in eight U.S. locations.

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