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No age limit for Cheryll on caring

At the age of 70, when most people are enjoying retirement, Cheryll Robison shows no sign of giving up her beloved nursing career.

Miss Robison, who has just celebrated the milestone birthday, is still a part-time, South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust community staff nurse in South Shields.

She has loved every minute of her 40 years in the profession. "I don't know what I would do without my job – the satisfaction it gives me is priceless and it keeps me going," she said. "I am also lucky to work with an amazing bunch of people in the Cleadon Park district nursing team."

Nursing was not her first choice of career, however. She worked in administrative jobs, including as a wages clerk, for some years but it was seeing her father being nursed in hospital which changed the course of her life.

Miss Robison, of South Shields, said: "He had a brain tumour and when I saw what the nurses did for him I decided that maybe this was something I wanted to do, too. Sadly, I had only been training for four weeks when he died."

She started working at the then South Shields General Hospital as a student nurse and, for over 20 years, she was a staff nurse, mainly in Gynaecology and on the male surgery ward. She has been involved in community nursing for about 12 years.

She added: "I feel very privileged as I am a guest in my patients' homes and sometimes I may be the only person they see all day so I feel my job is really important."

Hazel Robertson, Clinical Operational Manager, said: "Cheryll clearly loves her job and is always very encouraging and supportive with young students coming in to the profession."

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Pictured above: Colleagues helped community staff nurse Cheryll Robison to celebrate her 70th birthday

Issued on behalf of South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust by Kay Jordan

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