

VALE

MICHAEL LEO MATYSIAK **24th May 1948 - 29th September 2012**

Sometimes men come along who display extraordinary courage. We call them Tigers!

Our mate Matty was such a man.

To the members of 5 Platoon B Company (2nd tour) he was known as 'Matty', Mick or Matty-Sak (for those who couldn't pronounce Matysiak).

Matty succumbed to a heart attack in Greenslopes Hospital, Brisbane on Saturday night 29th September, after being admitted only two days previously with crippling back pain and blood glucose levels that had 'gone through the roof'.

He had been battling severe back and hip pain for several years and had suffered a dramatic, unexplained weight loss during that period.

Thankfully, nine of his B Company mates, including myself, had enjoyed his company at a 'get together' just one week before his passing. It was a mammoth effort on his part to summon up the strength to attend. That was typical of the man.

Matty joined the Army on 20th September 1967 and served with distinction until discharged on 19th September 1988, some 21 years later.

He was proudest of his time with 5RAR, having served with the Battalion in SVN from 8 February 1969 until 5 March 1970.

For the most part of his 13 months in Vietnam, Matty carried the gun in 6 Section. He also carried more weight than most of us! He was a fine soldier and earned the respect of all who had the honour of serving with him.

We remember him as one who had a dry sense of humour, loved a beer, and until the day he died, loved to roll his own durries.

But most of all, he loved his partner Teresa, loved his family and loved his Tiger mates.

Matty died knowing that his Tiger mates remembered and cared about him, and that we won't forget what we went through together.

Lest we forget.



Ken Davis
6 Section 2IC (or as Matty referred to me - Section batman)
5 Platoon B Company 2nd tour