

VALE
44558 PRIVATE MATTHEW KEVIN SMITH 16 July 2016.
8 Platoon C Company 5RAR 1969 - 70
by
Ian "Leisy" Leis.

"M.K" as he was known by those who were "privileged" to have known and served with him in his life, was a successful, quiet achiever. He was very good at remaining in the background, but not necessarily out of trouble! After the military he worked for the S.A. Railways until his self-funded retirement, living in the Mt. Gambier and Peterborough area of S.A. Originally Matt came from Black Rock S.A.

M.K. Was a few years older than most of us who entered the military with him. His maturity was evident, especially with his approach to life and it's responsibilities.

Whilst at Holsworthy on the company morning parade, M.K. Was responsible for giving one of our respected leaders the nick-name of "YAP YAP". Matt stated "BLOODY DOG DOG IS IN THERE BARKING AND CHASING HIS TAIL AND HERE COMES HIS PUP YAP YAP SPRUKING HIS ORDERS. It stuck! Those from C Company will relate to this.

In retirement M.K. remained quietly in the background. However many friendships made during life remained strong. A phone call, a card, a short note (a man of few words) let those friends know he still thought of them.

M.K. Left us as he lived "quietly and with dignity". Over the last 20 months of his life, Matt suffered from a very aggressive cancer. The medical treatment he endured did not extend or improve the quality of life for him.

M.K. you will not be forgotten by those who journeyed and served with you through your life.

R.I.P. "M.K." YOUR DUTY's DONE.