

David Neville Harley was born in Perth on 21 July 1947 and after spending his early years in Dumbleyung WA, he completed his secondary education at Christchurch Grammar School, Perth. He graduated from the University of WA in 1968 with a Bachelor of Science and at the University of Adelaide with a 1st Class Honours Degree in Economic Geology in 1969. Having deferred for his studies, David entered the Army as a National Serviceman 5717302 with Class 1/70. David was employed as a Geologist by Western Mining Corporation, a company he would work for from 1971 to 1995. On Graduating with Class 2/70 David was allocated to RAASigs and posted to 5 Signals Regiment. From there he was posted to HQ Eastern Command at Victoria Barracks Sydney from where he discharged in November 1971. David married Jan in December 1971 three weeks after completing his National Service.



After the Army, David completed a Master's Degree from the University at London, Ontario, Canada which was sponsored by his employer, (WMC). He subsequently had directorships at Gallery Gold and Gunson Resources and was a Past President and Life Member of the Association of Mining and Exploration Companies.



David enjoyed Australian Rules football as a talented player and later supporting the West Coast Eagles and he also enjoyed golf having become a regular at the Mosman Park Golf Club in recent years. Amongst his family, colleagues, both military and others, and friends he was known for his quirky and unique sense of humour which helped diffuse many a tense situation, particularly when under attack by his superiors!

David had a stroke while at home in Mosman Park, WA, and a few days later, on 14 November died after surgery to remove a blot clot from the brain. He leaves behind his wife Jan and family Paul and Bron and Glenn and Charlotte. He was a Grandpa to Minna, Sophia, Tom, Finn and Fred.

His funeral was held at the Fremantle West Chapel on 19 November 2019 and was attended by several hundred people including many Scheyville/OTU men. Both David's sons Paul and Glenn, and David's brother Peter presented eulogies.

David will be sadly missed by all who knew him.
(David Russell 1/70 & 2/70)



Mines and Petroleum Minister Bill Marmion (centre) with (L-R) Ron Chamberlain and David Harley from Gunson Resources, and Kobus Potgieter from Pluton Resources; the first entrants into the Mining Rehabilitation Fund.