John Michael Hogan was born on 22 May 1946 at Rockhampton in Queensland. He completed his secondary education at St Joseph's College in Rockhampton. Before entering The Army as a National Serviceman, John was employed as a teacher by the Queensland Department of Education. Whilst at OTU John attained the Rank of Under Officer as a Company Sergeant Major. He graduated with Class 1/69 on 17 July 69. He was commissioned into the RAInf and posted to the 3rd Training Battalion, Singleton, where he saw out his NS commitment.

John was a committed member of the NSAA.

John had been unwell for several years, but his partner Lyn Pegler cared for him at home where he stayed except for several tips to hospital. He lost interest in many things except his love of red wine. John passed away peacefully at Mater Hospital in Rockhampton, Queensland, on 2 October 2018. His funeral was held at century old St Joseph's Cathedral in Rockhampton with a later private committal at the Emu Park Cemetery near Rockhampton.