

Vale Mark Walker (1954 - 28 March 2017)



Having previously been a 2LT in the CMF, **Mark (Marcus) John Walker** applied and was selected for officer training at the Regular Army Officer Cadet School (OCS) Portsea, to commence his officer training in January 1973. However he, along with 30 other applicants from his class, was allocated to be in the 1/73 Class of the Scheyville Wing of OCS located at the National Service officer training establishment, the Officer Training Unit (OTU), located at Scheyville near Windsor in NSW.

Mark attained the rank of Corporal in what was then the Company of Officer Cadets, in the Senior Class remaining at Scheyville after the march-out of the 2/72 OCS (Scheyville) Class in June 1973. His was the last of the three OCS (Scheyville) classes. Along with his other 1/73 Class members, he went to Portsea in December 1973 to graduate with his cohort classmates.

Mark graduated into AAAvn and was seconded to 1RAR, Townsville in 1974 for two years to gain regimental experience as a junior officer. Upon his return to AAAvn, he attended the RAAF Flying School at Point Cook in 1976. Being unsuccessful at his flying course, he Corps transferred to RAAC in 1975. He served in all ARA RAAC line units: 2nd Cavalry Regiment, Holsworthy, B Squadron 3rd Cavalry Regiment, Townsville and 1st Armoured Regiment, Puckapunyal. Progressing to the rank of Major, his last appointment in the Army was as OC A Squadron 3/4th Cavalry Regiment in Brisbane.

In 1985 Mark moved to Perth with his wife Sue. He was doing very well as Executive Director/CEO of an industry organisation involved in transport training. In 1999 he suffered a severe brain aneurysm whilst on business in Adelaide and nearly died. He was unable to work again after that due to the resultant acquired brain injury.

In April 2016 Mark was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. He undertook programs of chemotherapy and radiotherapy but the disease spread and he died at home on 28 March 2017 at age 63. He was not survived by any children.