

Terence ‘Peter’ Simonds was born in Sydney on 12 July 1947 a son to Terence Joseph and Sheelah Mary (Peg) Simonds. He completed his secondary education at St Edmunds College in Canberra. Before entering the Army on 1 May 1968 as a National Serviceman Peter was employed as an Insurance Broker by Yorkshire Life Insurance. Peter was selected for Officer Training and commenced at OTU with Class 2/68 on 17 May. While Peter did not ‘shine’ during infantry tactics, he did enough to convince the staff that he should become an officer and graduated on 10 October. He was allocated to the RAASC and started Corps Training at Puckapunyal. In early December he commenced his first posting, a Transport Platoon Commander. A year after graduation, Peter decided that he had found his ‘niche’ in life and transferred to the ARA.



When the Royal Australian Corps of Transport was formed in 1973, Peter undertook a Corps transfer to RACT. Peter went on to serve for twenty years followed by two years in the Army Reserve. His postings included two in Papua-New Guinea, the Transport Centre, Logistics Branch, a secondment to the Railways Research and Development Organisation and the Land Warfare Centre, finishing with an Army Reserve posting at Headquarters, 3rd Division. With the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, and with the 3rd Division set to be removed from the Order of Battle in 1991, Peter opted for discharge on 18 April 1990.

Peter was the devoted husband of Judy Simonds (née Pallot) and son in law of Douglas and Gwen Pallot. He was a loving father of Terence Nicholas, Natalie, Fiona, Carolyn, Stephanie & Laura and Father-in-law of Lisa, Luke, Paul, Dylan and Neal. He was the adored Grandpa of Samantha, Terence Zachary, Nathaniel, Lachlan & Thomas; Alexandra & Douglas, Amity and Ella; and Gabriel.

For some time, Peter had been battling brain tumours. He finally lost that battle, dying peacefully at home on 15 March 2021. Peter’s life was celebrated with a service at St Leonard’s Church in Glen Waverley on Tuesday 23 March.