

Noel Brunker (3/67)



Keith Hopkins and Ray Elder (both 2/67)

2786513 Noel James Brunker (left with Alan Jellie) died suddenly during a camping trip in Cobbold Gorge, North Queensland, on 2nd June 2014. Noel was born at Parramatta on 22nd August 1946; grew up in Sydney; and completed his secondary education at Port Hacking High School where he was school captain in 1963. Before entering the Army as a

National Serviceman he was employed as a Clerk by the Commonwealth Banking Corporation.

Noel, a Class 2/67 Intake Cadet, graduated on 21st December 1967 into the Corps of Signals and was posted to the School of Signals at Balcombe, Victoria. In April 1968 he was posted to the PNG Training Depot. On completion of his National Service obligation he rejoined the Commonwealth Bank and had a very successful career in their Information Technology/Computing Division and is credited with being a major contributor to the development of their IT systems. He is survived by his wife Lynne, three married daughters, Michelle, Lisa and Kristy and three grandchildren. Noel was a strongly oriented family person, and both he and Lynne loved the outdoors – they were camping and caravanning enthusiasts and in more recent times had been to just about everywhere right throughout Australia. Since retirement they lived on the Mid - North Coast of NSW at South West Rocks near Kempsey. Noel always had a strong commitment to his local community and a strong network of friends.

Noel's Scheyville classmates all agree that he was a quiet achiever and a very good all round sportsman and particularly good at rugby and hockey. Noel was humble and without ego or pretentiousness - he just got on with the job without fuss or bother. He was always great company and had a wry sense of humor.

One humorous recollection Ray Elder has of Noel's time at Scheyville was the night he was teamed with Ray Elder and Geoff England on our first night navigation exercise in the Colo Forest. Until then, navigation had looked a fairly easy exercise but as soon as the team was dropped off the truck in a night that was pitch black, all the ridge lines looked the same. They were very quickly completely lost and found themselves battling through thick forest and wading streams up to their chests until they miraculously found their way to the road where they set up camp for the night to await the trucks returning to OTU. While they had made a mess of the navigation exercise, Noel, Ray and Geoff thought that they had used great initiative in finding their way safely to the road and deserved a reasonable mark for their effort. The DS did not agree and they each scored zero."

