

They built their first house in Brighton in 1948 and in 1950 purchased an FJ Holden. Jack was a great Holden man and went everywhere extolling the virtues of Holdens - "an Australian car for Australian conditions" he would say to all and sundry.

Jack's parents and three sisters lived on separate farms near Mt. Gambier and Christmas holidays meant visits to the properties and the animals by Jack and the family. At the golf club Jack became club captain for 1969 and 1970, a committee member and later was appointed a life member. Julie and Jack played solo with friends from the club. I remember politics and other issues being debated with great gusto and aggression. It made parliament seem like kindergarten and a boxing ring a very friendly place to be.

Years passed, Jack's war injury to his foot bothered him at golf, and bowls proved to be the answer. Julie and Jack joined the Mentone Bowling Club and the Cheltenham Bowling Club.

Their sons had left home; so many winter holidays were spent on the Sunshine Coast of Queensland where many friends were made. Jack always knew people everywhere wherever he went.

Jack retired from professional military service in 1975, having attained the rank of Lieutenant - Colonel. His tasks were divided between home, bowls and grandchildren, Nicole and Andrew. Son Trevor, lives in the United States. Julie and Jack visited in 1986 and returned with great memories and photographs.

His greatest loss was wife Julie in 1995 after 56 years of marriage. This was followed by a realisation in year 2000 that he could not live at home by himself. Loss of his driving license was also a great setback.

He moved to Greenwood Manor in Dingley in December 2000. He had some trouble adjusting but eventually settled in well. April 2003 saw Jack move to Le Grand Amity Aged Care in Caulfield South.

The family will always remember Jack as a wonderful husband, father, and grandfather. Others will remember him as a diligent Army officer and a great administrator.

Peter Fox.

Jack joined the Unit at Larrimah in December 1942. He became the Squadrons adjutant at the beginning of its New Guinea campaign taking over No. 6 Section when Ken Macintosh returned to Australia, a position that he held in the New Britain campaign. Jack was very good officer and a stern disciplinarian. He always led from the front and was highly respected by the men in his section and enjoyed their confidence.

Jack was a loyal and generous supporter of the Association and with Julie attended a number of our Safaris.

Mavis Broadhurst, Ed Bourke, John Southwell and Harry Botterill attended Jack's funeral service held on 17th May last. May he rest in peace.

The Association extends its deepest sympathy to Peter, Trevor, and their families.

Lest we forget.

Jack Carey.

VALE JAMES RELTON SMITH NX 15613

Jim's daughter Diane has kindly provided this vale:

James (Jim or Jimmy as he was affectionately known) Smith was born on

28th October 1922 in the country town of Gloucester, NSW, the youngest of 7 children. His father was a dairy farmer. At age 12 he moved to Sydney to complete his schooling, which he hated and at 15 joined the workforce. In the late 1930's he felt it was his duty to join the war effort and falsified his age to enlist in the AIF in May 1940 at the age of 17, sailing in 1941 on the Queen Elizabeth to Palestine. In 1942 he returned to Australia and joined the 2/2nd Commandos and trained at Canungra in Queensland. He then spent time in New Guinea and New Britain. He was discharged from the Army in October 1945.

In 1946 Jim met and fell in love with Zona Anne Smith but was not allowed to marry her until she reached 19 years of age and so they were married a few days after Zona's 19th birthday the following year. In 1949 Jim, along with some friends commenced building the first family home in Normanhurst, a northern suburb of Sydney. It took 2 years, working every weekend to complete this home where the family lived for the next 10 or so years. Diane Relton Smith (now Parkinson) was born to Jim and Zona in January 1950 and Gavin Laughton Smith was born on 3 October 1954. Both Diane and Gavin survive Jim and Zona. A wonderful family life was had with dinghy sailing and racing on Sydney Harbour for many years.

Jim worked in Sydney, after the war for David Gelatine, in sales. He then moved on to work in the motor trade for many years. Jim's first major battle with illness hit in 1963 when he was first diagnosed with cancer. This almost took his life but he wouldn't succumb.

In 1969 we moved to Kieta on Bougainville in the Solomon Island chain. Gavin remained in boarding school but visited every holiday. Jim ran

a trade store for an old mate of his. This store sold everything from fish and chips, to hi-fi players, to children's clothing. It was open from 7am-7pm 7 days a week. More sailing took place up on the crystal clear waters off Bougainville when time permitted and Jim was made Commodore of the Kieta Sailing Club. This was a very happy time for the family. Jim was also one of the people instrumental in helping build the first RSL Club on Bougainville and he ran the two-up each Anzac Day whilst living in Kieta. Jim also worked for Bougainville Copper for around 18 months, being the Procurement Manager.

In 1977 Jim and Zona returned to Australia, settling in a Brisbane suburb. They purchased the trade store at the Wacol Migrant Centre and ran that for a number of years – this place had to be seen to be believed! In 1981 Jim had to overcome a triple bypass which he did in his usual positive style.

In 1982 they retired to the Gold Coast and just loved the lifestyle there, enjoyed travelling overseas and having a wonderful time with many great friends and also with Gavin's 2 children, Emily and Blake. Zona's battle with cancer began in 1988 and she suffered terribly over the next 9 years until her death in 1997. Fortunately she had Jim by her side the whole time and he was a marvellous help to her. During this time Jim had indifferent health himself mainly with heart and lung problems but soldiered on.

In 2001 Jim decided to sell his home and move into the Domain Country Club Retirement Village at Ashmore on the Gold Coast. He had a wonderful time there, meeting new friends and being the life of the party, never missing a function or his bowls, unless he was too sick to join the activities.

We would like to mention how proud Dad always was that he had been a part of the war effort. Anzac day was always a special occasion for Dad, who marched almost every year, including this year with medals polished and gleaming.

He always kept a positive mind and lived life to the full until finally his heart could not hold out any longer.

Our dad, Jim, passed on to hopefully a better place, in the early hours of Thursday 8th July, from a massive heart attack.

Diane Parkinson.

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Jim served in No. 5 Section under Colin Doig in New Guinea and in New Britain under Gerry Touhy. Jim was a good soldier who always gave of his best and was respected by his section mates. He was a loyal and generous supporter of the Association and enjoyed keeping in touch via the Courier.

Lest we forget. J. Carey.

The Association extends its sincere condolences to Pat, Gavin and family.

Lest we forget

VALE RONALD O. HILLIARD NX 23047

Ron Hilliard was born in Cowra on January 22nd 1922. His father worked in the State Railways and was transferred to Katoomba in the Blue Mountains when Ron was still an infant.

Ron grew up and was educated in Katoomba; the beautiful mountain area was his playground. The mountain tracks, the waterfalls and sheer rock faces of the escarpment, the high straight trees and bush birdlife were all part of his every day life. As a schoolboy he earned his pocket money as a

delivery boy for the local chemist. The only thing missing in this "Garden of Eden" was employment opportunities. On leaving school, Ron went to Sydney and procured a job with a company named Duly & Hamford, a tool making company. By the time World War II arrived he was a machinist. He turned eighteen in January 1940 and not long after he and elder brother Sid joined the AIF becoming original members of the 2/1st medium Artillery Regiment. They were camped in Cowra for a period, which suited Sid and Ron. Their father had been a great friend of the Greek restaurant owner, so it was free tucker for his friends whilst they were based in Cowra.

Ron was sent with a detachment of gunners to the island of Nauru in the central Pacific, no excitement, but a trouble free life. The regiment was being sent to the Middle East in 1941. The detachments in Darwin, Nauru, and Ocean Island rejoined it and sailed to the Middle East in October 1941. The Pacific War erupted on December 7th 1941. The 2/1st returned to Australia in June 1942 and billeted in Adelaide for some time then transferred to the Esk River area west of Brisbane, still an ideal existence.

The troops were getting bored, all travel and no action. When volunteers for the Independent Companies were called for they volunteered in droves. They went to Canungra and after a gruelling three months training course they were allocated to various Independent Companies. Ron drew the 2/2nd Company in Canungra on the 15th May 1943. A month later on June 16th 1943, the 2/2nd embarked for New Guinea on the M.V. Duntroon. In another month the Unit was scattered across the central Highlands and in the mountains above