

AUSTRALIAN GUNNER OBITUARY RESOURCE

Major Kenneth Henry Borgges, BEM (Retd)

By Colonel A R Burke, OAM (Retd)

Major Kenneth Henry Borgges BEM (Retd) passed away on 8 November 2018 having fought multiple sclerosis for some considerable time.

Born in Brisbane on 3 September 1936, Ken enlisted in the ARA in 1954. He saw active service with 105th Field Battery in the Malayan Emergency between 1955 and 1957, and with the 103rd Field Battery between 1961 and 1963. He was a Sergeant with 1st Field Regiment in Vietnam during 1966, and awarded the British Empire Medal in 1967.

Back in Australia, Ken was the BSM of 103rd Battery in 1970-71 before taking up the same position with the 131st Divisional Locating Battery, and then becoming that battery's BQMS on promotion to WO1. He subsequently saw service with 4th Field Regiment and the District Support Unit in Townsville. During this period, he was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Medal and the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, and he also became an officer through an Administrative and Technical Commission. Ken resigned from the ARA in 1985 but served on in the Army Reserve until compulsory retiring age for rank when a Major at Headquarters 11th Brigade.

After leaving the Army, Ken served the veteran community as long-standing Secretary and newsletter editor of the RAA Association of North Queensland. He was a great supporter of 4th Regiment and an honorary member of its mess. Supported by his loving wife Rona and daughter Sharon, he did not allow his physical condition to slow him down, but swam and exercised daily until his strength finally failed him.

Vale Ken Borgges, dedicated and meticulous professional soldier, proud Gunner, active supporter of Gunner activities in North Queensland, loving and loved family patriarch. Gone to join his mates in the Great Gun Park up above at 82 years of age.