

Instrument Fitter
A22446
2AD. Main Sqdn E/Sale, 486 Wing.
11 Sqdn, [35] 38 Sqdn, R.T.F.V., 1AFTS.

Career Outline

1949 - Enlisted in the R.A.A.F. on the 8th. August, for Rookie training at R.A.A.F. Base Richmond. (No.57 Recruits Course).
Initial posting – R.A.A.F. Training School Forest Hill, Wagga Wagga N.S.W.
1950 - Posted to 2 AD (Aircraft Depot) R.A.A.F. Richmond – for 14 months duration, then back to Wagga for Instrument Fitter’s training. (No.10 Inst. Fit. Course.)
1952 - posted to Maintenance Squadron East Sale, Victoria. Where he spent 5 years, 7 months and 23 days!
1958 - Posted to Richmond - 2 A.D., then 11 Squadron (Neptunes) then 486 Maintenance Squadron (Dakotas, Meteors and Canberra’s).
1963 / 64 - Caribou training in Canada and U.S.A.
12 Mar 1965 - 12 Nov 1965 - RAAF Transport Flight Vietnam
1967 - Posted to R.A.A.F. Pearce, Western Australia.
Retired 10/09/1971.

He is currently in Juniper - Chrystal Halliday - Karrinyup, Western Australia, as he has advanced Alzheimer’s Dementia and CLL [Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia]. Unfortunately, his condition is deteriorating and we are in the process of implementing a palliative care plan.

I am writing to you to find out if there is anything I can apply for to recognise his service whilst he is still with us, and/or for the eventuality of his funeral. I am the youngest of his two daughters and am seeking the assistance/recognition I believe is due my father. I don’t know how many of the original Transport Flight Vietnam, ‘Wallaby Airlines’, veterans are still around, but as Dad is coming up to his 93rd birthday, I would venture to say ‘not many!’.

I am currently wading through various DVA pages and forms, trying to get a handle on the processes and procedures - a convoluted exercise as I am sure you know, so would appreciate any guidance or direction for assistance you may know of. Also, and the most important, is there any procedure or protocol that should be observed when it comes time for his funeral? Is there an opportunity for the R.A.A.F., specifically the RTFV 35 Squadron, to send a representative, or any form of recognition, to honour him?

Finally, if any former R.A.A.F members remember my Dad, please consider getting in contact or visiting him in Chrystal Halliday - Karrinyup. He may not recognise you due to the Dementia, but he will know you’ve been there for him.

I hope you don’t view this as me being overly presumptive but my Dad is, was, and will always be, my Hero... and I want his final act to be a fitting representation.

Kind regards
Amanda Lucas Parsons.

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