

Gunner N. Smithies

*Extracted from 'The Artillery News'
Newsletter - RAA Association Tasmania*

8260830 Gunner Nick Smithies, 16th Field Battery, died of a heart attack on Monday 14th April 2003 at his home in Hobart, aged 21 years. Gunner Smithies enlisted into the General Reserve on 29 December 1998 and marched out of ARTC on 19 February 1999 and into the Royal Australian Artillery. He participated in Operation Gold for three months as a vehicle searcher for the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games. Gunner Smithies attended numerous gunnery, signals, driving and promotion courses during his posting to 16th Field Battery.

He was recently employed as a No 7 of a gun detachment, which he performed to a high standard. Gunner Smithies' attendance record was outstanding and he was one of the most reliable soldiers within the Battery. He achieved continual service in the Battery since his enlistment and passed all his BFA's with ease.

Gunner Smithies' funeral was held on 17 April 2003, which was attended by the majority of 16th Field Battery.