

Edward Ernest Johnston

Date of Birth: 25.7.1923, Perth, WA (Eldest of Twins)

Brought up on a farm in Dangin, WA – Attended Dangin Primary School to Year 8, then Wesley College South Perth 1937-1940.

Member of College Army Cadet Unit 1938 – 1940. Obtained Junior Certificate 1938 – 9 subjects. Leaving Certificate (Year 12) 1940, 6 subjects.

Awarded Accountancy Scholarship. Champion Athlete Wesley College 1940.

Joined Commonwealth Bank December 1940. Northam WA.

Enlisted Australian Army 2nd June 1942 – Western Command Signals Melville Camp. Embarked HMAS Westralia Fremantle 27th July 1942, landed Milne Bay, New Guinea 21st August 1942. Battle of Milne Bay August/September 1942 – first land defeat of Japanese Forces – Pacific Campaign. Continued service – New Guinea – Port Moresby and Dobadura until May 1944, then 48 days leave in Australia.

Rejoined Unit, Eleven Division Signals, Atherton Tablelands, North Queensland. Embarked for New Britain August 1945. Landed Jacquinot Bay, New Britain when war ended. Continued with Occupation Forces at Rabaul until May 1946 when returned to Australia for discharge 21st June 1946.

Returned to work for the Commonwealth Bank serving in WA and Victoria until resignation December 1960 to operate Newsagency in Merredin until 1977 – then retired.

Married March 1960, 3 daughters and 9 grand children.

Appointed Justice of the Peace 1967.

Have occupied position of Secretary, Treasurer, Auditor and numerous official positions in organisations in Merredin.

Life Member Civic Bowling Club Merredin. Freemason for over 60 years.

Lodge Secretary for over 38 years.

NOTE: Son of Ernest Clyde JOHNSTON J.P – who served in Eleventh Battalion, First World War. Wounded in Action in France. Bullet passed through hand, wallet and lodged in book in left breast pocket, no doubt saving his life. Books and German bullet held by me, his only son.