



Squadron Leader J.N. PARKER AFC, OAM, DFM

[1928 – 2020]



Squadron Leader Parker was the Secretary of the Club from 1978 to 1980.

John Norris Parker was born in Cairns on 3 November 1928. He was the son of Percy Donald Parker [1903-1972], a Clerk of Petty Sessions who was posted throughout Queensland during his career, and Ethne Vivian Pearl (née Norris) [1902-1991].

He was schooled at Sarina and at the Church of England Grammar School, Brisbane in 1943-44 where he completed the Junior Certificate. He then became an accounts clerk at the Plane Creek Central Mill and M.H. Parker & Co (Accountants, Cairns) before enlisting in permanent Air Force.

He married Betty Patricia (née Stefansen) [1930-2019] in 1953. They had two children, Carolyn Ann [b. 1954] and David John [b. 1962].

John's military service is described below:

After service in the School Cadets (2 years) and the Air Training Corps (1 year) he:

- 1950 enlisted in the permanent RAAF and undertook pilot training at Point Cook.
- 1951 promoted Sergeant
- 1952 Jan – July 77 Sqn RAAF Korea. Flying Gloster Meteors in over 170 operational flying missions.

We thank the History Interest Group and other volunteers who have researched and prepared these Notes. The series will be progressively expanded and developed. They are intended as casual reading for the benefit of Members, who are encouraged to advise of any inaccuracies in the material.

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Brisbane Legacy	1981-82	President
	1974-89	Member
		Member – Welfare Committee
		Youth Activity Convenor
	1989-2001	Member Coolangatta/Tweed Heads Legacy Club
	2002-2020	Reserve Legatee
United Services Institute	1982-84	Treasurer (Queensland)
United Service Club	1976-78	Committee
	1978-82	Secretary / Manager
Australian War Memorial	1975-81	Member, Board of Trustees
Australian Aircrew Association		Chair, Gold Coast Branch
Queensland Veterans Affairs Review Board		Member
Toowong Bowls Club		President

He was awarded a Medal in the Order of Australia (General Division) in the 2012 Queen’s Birthday Honours List for his “service to veterans and their families through a range of organisations”.

John Parker joined the Club in 1958 and remained a member until his passing. He served on the Committee 1976-78. He was appointed Secretary in June 1978 following the resignation of Flight Lieutenant J.I. Coleman.



Sergeant J.N. Parker DFM, Korea (1952) [Ivor Hele]

Squadron Leader Parker died on 6 October 2020 at Tweed Heads.

During his tenure as Secretary, Squadron Leader Parker served Presidents Captain O.M. May OBE, VRD, RANR and Major General The Hon. J.L. Kelly CBE, RFD, QC

Sources included:

- Various web pages
- *United Service Club, Queensland: The First Century, 1892-1992* by Flight Lieutenant Murray Adams and Lieutenant Colonel Peter Charlton
- Club Meeting Minutes, Annual Reports, and sundry documents
- AWM and NAA archives
- Trove
- Contribution from Squadron Leader Parker’s son, David Parker.