

## **RAASC VSPA PATRON: MAJOR GENERAL D J MCLACHLAN AO RETD**

### **BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS**

David McLachlan was born in Harden NSW on 13 March 1937. He graduated from the Officer Cadet School, Portsea in December 1959 and was allotted to the Royal Australian Army Service Corps.

The early years of his service saw regimental and staff appointments in Australia, Malaysia during Confrontation with Indonesia, and in South Vietnam. He underwent training in the United Kingdom, attending the University of Reading in 1970 and 1971 and followed with a series of attachments to British and United States Army units in Germany.

On return to Australia in 1972 he was promoted to Major and appointed Officer Commanding of a logistic unit in NSW.

In 1973 he attended the Army Command and Staff College at Fort Queenscliff and was then posted to Headquarters Logistic Command as a staff officer until the end of 1977. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in December 1976.

Posted as Commanding Officer of the Logistic Battalion in Western Australia in January 1978, he remained there until attending the Joint Services Staff College in Canberra during the first half of 1980. Staff Officer Grade One appointments followed in Army Headquarters for the next three years when he was promoted to Colonel and appointed Director of Logistic Operations.

In January 1986, David McLachlan was promoted to Brigadier and assumed the appointment of Chief of Staff, Headquarters Logistic Command, an appointment he held for three and a half years. Further overseas study occurred during this time with attendance at an International Course at the US Navy Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. In July 1989 he moved to Sydney as Commander 2<sup>nd</sup> Military District where he stayed until the end of 1990.

Returning to Melbourne in January 1991 he was promoted to Major General and assumed the appointment of General Officer Commanding Logistic Command. Logistic Command was a national Command with 10,000 military and civilian personnel, an annual budget, excluding salaries in excess of \$600m and assets valued at over \$2.5billion located in 67 different locations throughout Australia.

David McLachlan retired from the Regular Army in March 1994. He was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in 1989 and promoted to Officer in the Order in the Queen's Birthday list in 1993.

Today he is the Chairman of Industry Capability Network Ltd, acts as a Corporate Advisor to a number of listed companies and is a Director of the Royal Humane Society of Australasia, and was elected State President of the Victorian Branch of the Returned and Services League in June 2002. He is also, proudly, the Honorary Colonel of the 4<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> Prince of Wales Light Horse Regiment.

David is married to Louise; they have three children and presently live in Beaumaris.