

Vale

NOTICAS

BILL BLAKEWAY

THE REVEREND CHARLES WILLIAM ALLEN BLAKEWAY, 3rd December 1933 – 24th November 2001

Bill Blakeway, beloved husband, father, brother, uncle, friend, pastor and padre died in Cape Town on 24th November 2001. He was born in Pretoria on 3rd December 1933. For those of you who were not able to attend his funeral, here is a description of the events.

Today we saw and experienced what Bill had meant to so many. His regiment the Cape Highlanders gave him a fitting send off. The coffin was mounted on a gun carriage and the Procession of pipers, officers, veterans and ex- comrades in arms made their way down past the Durbanville Race course into the Church yard.

The Durbanville Methodist church was packed and the procession of Revs Quentin Smith, James Gribble and Bishop Andrew Hefkie lead the pall bearers, family members and ex- RLI comrades down the aisle where the coffin was laid covered in the flags of his regiment and the RLI flag as well as other military regalia.

The service was lead by the Rev Quentin Smith and the congregation sung Amazing Grace. After prayer and Bible Reading Tributes were brought by Lt Col Tony Marriner MM.J.C.D from the Cape Town Highlanders and Lt Col. Pat Armstrong from the ex- Rhodesian Forces, they focused on Bill the Padre and Military man.

After the congregation sang "Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord" and a Bible reading the Revs Smith, Gribble and Bishop Hefkie brought tributes to Bill, the Pastor and what he has meant to the Methodist Church and the congregations he had served.

The hymn "Shall I, for fear of feeble man the Spirit's course in me restrain" was sung and the Rev Quentin Smith brought a tribute and exhortation to Bill, the Parent, Husband and Friend. He then performed the Committal and the hymn "O Thou who camest from above" was sung.

After the Benediction, the bugler played the Last Post, there was a two minute silence and the Reveille.

The Cape Highlanders led funeral procession out and the pall bearers and family left the Church to the pipers playing The Lament. The coffin was then undressed and returned to the gun carriage where the Procession then left the Church and proceeded on down the road for the last time.

A tea was provided at the bowling club next to the Church where the book of condolences could be signed and the family greeted and comforted.

So ended the era and the life of a man we all deeply loved and respected. But for him the beginning of a new and wonderful life everlasting -

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