

John Kenneth Martin

John Kenneth Martin was born on 28 April 1902. He was the seventh child of Thomas and Annie Martin who had settled on a 70-acre farm at Lilydale (Helidon) Queensland.

The family lived in a slab hut with a detached kitchen and red gum timber floors covered with plaited rag mats.

John rose at 5.30 am to bring in the cows before helping to milk them. After feeding the calves and pigs, cleaning the milking utensils he would have breakfast and then go to school. The milking was repeated after school. After tea John completed homework before going to bed.

On Sunday afternoons the family attended Sunday School and Church.

When John's oldest brother Charlie enlisted in 1915, John was removed from school to work on the farm. Charlie was killed at Pozieres on 29 July 1916.

The family moved to Brisbane where John began working.

In 1924 John attended the College of the Bible in Melbourne. He was appointed student minister at Warragul in Victoria.

After completing College John was appointed as a minister at Wynnum- Hawthorn in Brisbane. He married Phyllis Myrtle Pederson in 1928. Other appointments followed.

1929 – 1931 Geeveston – Dover, Tasmania

1931 – 1934 Collins Street Church in Hobart

1934 – 1936 Swan Hill – Woorinen – Ultima Circuit in Victoria

1936 Redcliffs – Merbein Home Missions Churches where he worked with many WW1 returned soldiers

Just before WW2 John was asked to go to the Seymour camp as a chaplain.

On 2 March 1942 John went to Mt Martha as chaplain to 3000 troops and then to Darley near Bacchus Marsh. In January 1942 his Unit moved to Drysdale and then onto Watsonia in February.

John was deemed fit to serve overseas and served in New Guinea at Lau, Bougainville, Morotai, Borneo and Labuan.

At the end of the war John was discharged in 1946 and returned to civilian work at Ormond Church of Christ.

In 1949 John changed careers and moved to Bendigo where he practised as a chiroprapist until he retired in 1976.

Myrtle Martin died in 1988.

John Martin died in 1992.

They are buried at the Bendigo Cemetery.

Sourced from

“Chaplain's” Story by Vivian Martin www.diggerhistory.info

Ancestry.com

Ancestry Family Tree

John Kenneth Martin

1902–1992

Birth 28.04.1902 at Dalmachie, Helidon, Queensland, Australia

Married Phyllis Myrtle Pedersen (1906–1988) 13.10.1928 • Queensland, Australia

Death 17.04.1992 at Bendigo, Victoria, Australia

Military Service

1939 - 1948 Royal Park Victoria. Aged 37

1943 Wynnum, Moreton, Queensland, Australia

17.04.1992 • Bendigo, Victoria, Australia

Parents

Thomas Martin 1865–1953

Annie Mary Beitz 1868–1938

Children

Elizabeth Marianne (Betty)

Kenneth Ian

Vivian Graham