

PRIVATE RONALD WILLIAM PETTMAN - ANGASTON

Second World War

Ronald William Pettman was born in Gilberton on 17 May 1919. Ronald was the eldest son of Robert William and Renie May Pettman of Angaston, South Australia and a brother to Max, Peter and Mary. Robert attended Walkerville and Angaston Schools and Nuriootpa High School.

A very capable racing cyclist he finished second in the Burra to Adelaide Cycling Race when he was still a teenager.

Robert enlisted in the Australian Military Forces on 10 June 1940 in the 2nd/27th Infantry Battalion, 'C' Company.

Robert was killed in action at the Battle of Adloun, Lebanon, Syria on 11 June 1941, aged 22 years. He is buried in Sidon War Cemetery, south of Beirut.

From "The Leader" June 26, 1941 – Three District Men Make the Supreme Sacrifice. Pte Ronald William Pettman, who was killed in action overseas on June 11, was only 22, being the eldest son of Digger R.W and Mrs Pettman, Angaston.

He was a fine athletic type of young man, and won admiration as a member of the Cycle Club, his triumphs including second for the Burra-Adelaide race a few years ago. He was born at North Adelaide on May 15, 1919, and came to Angaston with his parents, 14 years ago.

He was educated at Walkerville and Angaston Schools and the Nuriootpa High School. He was associated with his father in the orchard at Angaston, then went to N.S.W. fruit areas to broaden his experience, mainly in the Leeton fruit district.

He returned when he was 21 and enlisted at Angaston, going abroad last October.

The district's deepest sympathy is extended to Mr and Mrs Pettman, Peter and Mary, as well as Leading Aircraftman Max Pettman, his other brother, who is with the R.A.A.F. at Narandera N.S.W. Mr Pettman sen., served in the last war for two years, until wounded in an air raid.

Lest We Forget.

*Image and information provided by Anne Batten – Angaston Penrice Historical Society
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