



PRIVATE ROBERT HUGH FREDERICK POATE

It is with deep regret the Australian Defence Force announces the death of Private Robert Hugh Frederick Poate on operations in Afghanistan on 29 August 2012.

Private Robert Poate was a member of the 3 RAR Task Group and was from the 6th Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (6 RAR), based in Brisbane, Queensland.

Private Poate is survived by his parents Hugh and Janny, and his sister, Nicola.

Private Poate was born in Canberra, in 1988. He enlisted in the Army in 2009. On completion of his basic and initial employment training, he was posted as a rifleman to 6 RAR. Private Poate was a highly qualified soldier, having completed specialist training as a PMV Driver in 2010 and PMV Commander in 2011.

Private Poate was known for having outstanding leadership potential, which led to him completing a promotion course for Corporal in 2011. He will be fondly remembered by his 'Brothers by Choice' in 6 RAR as a larrikin and an incredibly professional soldier. Private Poate had a reputation for creating mischief without getting caught, and was proud of his family, his military service, his Canberran origins, and his red hair, which he vehemently defended as being 'strawberry blonde'.

Private Poate has been awarded the following honours and awards:

- Australian Active Service Medal with clasp ICAT,
- Afghanistan Campaign Medal,
- NATO Medal with clasp ISAF,
- Infantry Combat Badge, and
- Return from Active Service Badge.

During Private Poate's service in the Australian Army he deployed on the following operation:

- Operation SLIPPER (Afghanistan) – June 2012 – August 2012.