

**TROOPER Robert George Aubrey ("Aubrey") ATKIN  
(1915 - 1990)**

Born of Annie Blodwen née Scotton (1885-1977) and Robert Twydale Atkin (1885-1963) "Aubrey" Atkin, he was educated at St. Joseph's College ("Marists Brothers"), Rondebosch (1924-1927) and at South African College High School (1931-1933). After matriculation, he worked for Kodak (SA) Ltd from August 1934 until October 1940 as "cine processing operator".



Trooper RGA Atkin joined the Pretoria Regiment (Princess Alice's Own) in November 1940. On the 8 October 1944, the regiment was granted permission to wear the emblem and colours of the Brigade of Guards, with whom they enjoyed the closest of ties. This was the only South African to be granted such an honour.

He saw harrowing action in this tank corps in North Africa and Italy; and was demobilised on 5 October 1945. He bore the psychological wounds for the rest of his life. On being discharged, he joined his father and entered the South African Railways as a clerk on 15 November 1947. He remained in their service until his retirement. He died in Victoria Hospital, Wynberg of pneumococcal pneumonia in 1990. He never married. He was my mother's first cousin through the Scotton line.

He was awarded the 1939-45 Star; the Africa Star; the Italy Star; the Defence Medal; the War Medal 1939-45; the Africa Service Medal 1939-45. His army beret bore the cap badges of the Pretoria Regiment, the Coldstream, Scots and Irish Guards, and a unidentified Polish Regiment.

**Saturday, 09 August 2003**

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