

- Our phone line is temporarily operating with reduced hours. You can call us between 9am and 3pm Monday to Friday. [Contact us](#)

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- [Get support](#)

The support you may be able to get depends on your circumstances.

[Currently serving](#)

Support while you're still serving.

[Ex-serving](#)

Support once your regular service has finished.

[Family and whānau](#)

Here's how we can support you, and how you can support your family and whānau.

[Non-military personnel](#)

Non-military personnel can have Qualifying Operational Service in certain circumstances.

- [Remembrance](#)

We're proud to honour the service of the veteran community.

[Services Cemeteries and plaques and headstones](#)

We help look after Services Cemeteries. We're also able to contribute towards plaques and headstones.

[Commemorative funding](#)

There are two types of financial contributions available from the Commemorative Fund.

[Medals and service records](#)

The NZ Defence Force's Personnel Archives and Medals team administer medals and hold most New Zealand military service records.

[When someone dies](#)

We may be able to provide support when someone who had Qualifying Service dies.

[Your family's military history](#)

Learning more about your family's military history is a great way to honour their service.

[Certificate of Appreciation and Veterans' Pins](#)

The Certificate of Appreciation and Veteran's Pin recognise operational service.

- [Eligibility](#)

To be eligible to receive support from us, you—or certain family members—need to have Qualifying Service.

[Check your eligibility](#)

Check the support, services, or entitlements you may be able to get from us.

[Qualifying Service](#)

To get support from us you — or certain family members — need to have Qualifying Service.

[Living outside NZ](#)

You can still get support from us even if you live outside NZ.

[Eligibility criteria for family and dependants](#)

You may be able to get support if you're the spouse, partner, child or dependant of someone with Qualifying Service.

[Veterans of foreign militaries](#)

Veterans' Affairs New Zealand was established to support New Zealand veterans.

- [For clients](#)

We put veterans and our clients at the heart of everything we do.

If you have a question at any stage please contact us—we're here to help.

[How we'll work with you](#)

We'll work with you to help you get the best support available.

[Your treatment card](#)

Your treatment card helps you get no-cost treatment and medication for your approved conditions.

[Your rights and responsibilities](#)

We want to make sure you have the best possible experience when you deal with us.

[Payments](#)

Information on payment rates and dates.

[How we make decisions](#)

We use a number of tools and processes to make decisions. This helps ensure each decision we make is fair and treats our clients consistently.

[Living outside NZ](#)

You can still get support from us even if you live outside NZ.

[Other benefits](#)

You may be able to access a range of discounts and benefits. Not only that, your family may get access too.

- [For providers](#)

Information for providers of services to Veterans' Affairs and our clients.

[Treatment cards and letters](#)

To help you identify our clients, we issue treatment cards and letters.

[Invoicing us](#)

How to invoice us to ensure we pay you quickly and correctly.

[Treating our clients](#)

Information for healthcare professionals providing treatment to our clients.

[Councils and local authorities](#)

Guidance for councils and local authorities relating to services cemeteries and memorials

[Forms](#)

Forms for our clients, family and whānau, and our providers.

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Air Force veteran and New Zealand's oldest person passes away

Air Force veteran and New Zealand's oldest person passes away

It is with sadness that we learnt of the passing of Ron Hermanns earlier this week — a Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF) veteran of the Second World War and New Zealand's oldest person.

Mr Hermanns passed away on Monday 30 August, just three weeks from his 110th birthday.

Born in Canada on 25 September 1911, he moved with his family to New Zealand in 1914. He joined the New Zealand Territorial Air Force in 1937 as an aircraft rigger, transferring to full-time RNZAF service when war broke out in 1939.

Initially stationed in New Zealand, he had two overseas postings to the Pacific, first to Espiritu Santo in the New Hebrides (now Vanuatu) in 1943, where he spent 12 months servicing the RNZAF's Kittyhawk fighter aircraft. This was followed by a second tour to Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands in 1945 when he spent a further five months maintaining Lockheed Ventura bombers.

After the war, Mr Hermanns gave many years of service to NAC/Air New Zealand, as an aircraft engineer.

He never married and had no children, and despite being legally blind and deaf, still lived in his own home in the Christchurch suburb of Cashmere, supported by a dedicated team of neighbours and carers.



Mr Hermanns standing with a cut-out figure of his younger self at the Air Force Museum of New Zealand in 2019

Date

03 September 2021

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