

## Dr. HARRY MEDLIN PhD ACM



**Soldier, POW, Physicist, Deputy Chancellor University of Adelaide**

**Born:** Orroroo SA, 3 November 1920

**Died:** Adelaide SA, 6 March 2013

**Attended ATHS:** 1933-35

### **Career**

He attended the South Australian School of Mines and Industries from 1936 to 1939. Around this time he enlisted in the Militia and rapidly rose to the rank of Captain. On 29 July 1941 he enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) in the Corps of Engineers. When enlisting in the AIF he was required to take a reduction of rank. He saw service in Darwin and Timor. On 20 February 1942 the Japanese invasion force lead by para-troopers made their first assault on Timor. The Allied Force surrendered on 23 February 1942. Thus began more than three years as a prisoner of war of the Japanese.

He returned from the war to study Physics at the University of Adelaide. In 1951 he established the X-ray Crystallography Group in the Department of Physics at University of Adelaide. He was subsequently appointed Professor of the University. In later years he was appointed as Deputy Chancellor of the University of Adelaide. He has written innumerable learned papers.

Professor Medlin was very active in facilitating the integration of the university into the world context, actively encouraging interaction of the university within the region.

### **Awards:**

In recognition of more than a half century of service to the University of Adelaide (1946-2001) Professor Medlin received a "Distinguished Alumni Award."

Professor Medlin was awarded the Australian Centenary Medal 'For creative and productive involvement in all aspects of the work, life and culture of universities'.