

A letter from Judy Farmer, wife of the late Syd Farmer.

16 June 2011

Hi John

Your email has promoted me to let you know what caused Syd's death. You or other ex RAAFies might be able to spread the word to others.

Syd has been officially accepted by DVA as:

"Tier 3, Category 11 classification. Syd meets the definition for Tier 3 classification because he was an Engine Fitter employed at the Engine Test Cell No.1 at 3 Aircraft Depot during the relevant period. His service does not satisfy the definition for Tier 1 or Tier 2 classification because he was not part of the formal F-111 deseal/reseal programs"

The letter then goes on to say:

"Tier 3 classification provides access to beneficial provisions under the "Safety Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988 (SRCA)." As your husband's death appears to have been from one of 31 conditions identified as associated with the deseal/reseal programs (Leukaemia), there may be an entitlement to compensation under the SRCA for any dependants at the time of his death. Ms Glenys Jones from DVA can provide more information on these entitlements and any impacts on current entitlements.

You can contact Ms Jones on 1800 555 323."

Syd always said that he was not involved in the Deseal/Reseal program, but when we went out to Amberley for the last F-111 fly over, I picked up some information and discovered that he was a possible Tier 3. He completed the application form last November and I received the above a week ago. After Syd passed I was very angry and believed that his death was related to his service in the RAAF. It was only through contact with Currumbin Sub-Branch that I was able to find out more, as usual with DVA, you have to know to ask the questions, they won't tell you.

I would like to thank Tony Honby Advocate at Currumbin Palm Beach Sub-Branch, without his help and advice I would not have found this information.

I would be very grateful if you could pass this information on, so anyone else you may be involved or to those who think that they are not in involved can have it confirmed.

Thanks,

Judy Farmer