

Veteran of the Week 14

Corporal Andrew Keys

Royal Engineers

British Armed Forces



Corporal Andrew Keys of Wymark, Saskatchewan, began his military career when he joined the Junior Leaders Royal Engineers (JLRE) in 1981 at age 16. Over the course of his 15-year career with the Royal Engineers he served 10 of those years posted in Germany but also served on postings in Italy, Denmark, the Gulf and in Canada. When he was posted to his first unit he served as a crewman on a Ferret Scout Car for 2 years and then went on to serve as a crewman on a Centurion AVRE (Armoured Vehicle Royal Engineers). Cpl. Keys completed both the driver and gunners' course on the Centurion. He also served a stint in Rippon, North Yorkshire as a combat engineer. Cpl. Keys was then posted to Osnabruck, Germany.

In 1991 Cpl. Keys was deployed to the Gulf during the First Gulf War as a driver of a Bridge Layer AVRE. Additionally, he performed the tasks of clearing booby traps from trenches and vehicles, consolidating vehicles, and helping clear land mines using what is called a "Giant Viper". After having served in the Gulf War Cpl. Keys was posted to BATUS which was running battle simulations with the Canadian Forces at CFB Suffield, located near Suffield Alberta. (Primarily with the PPCLI & Royal 22nd Regiment/ Vandoos). It was while serving at CFB Suffield that he received his discharge from the British Forces and afterward's he stayed in Canada. Today Cpl. Keys is an avid supporter of veterans causes and is a local businessman. This week we honour the service of Corporal Andrew Keys of Wymark, Saskatchewan. Thank You Cpl. Keys for your service.

