Ernest Smith

SEFF remembers Ernest (Ernie) Smith who was murdered 25 years ago today on 12th December 1993. Ernie was 49-year-old, married with 2 children and a serving RUC police officer.

Ernest was from Knockmany Road, Augher and along with his colleague Andrew (Drew) Beacom were murdered by PIRA terrorists after their car pulled up to the junction of Main Street and Coneen Street when at least 2 gunmen fired with automatic weapons at both sides of the car hitting it with more than 20 shots. Both policemen were based at Clogher RUC station.

Ernie was born in 1944 and shared his birthday with her Majesty the Queen.

At the point of the murder Ernie had been on the RUC Reserve for almost 19 years, he was a keen farmer with a particular interest in horses and Aberdeen Angus cattle.

He also loved Clogher Valley Show, being born and reared in Augher meant that the show was an important annual event that he looked forward to.

Res Const. Smith had been in the RUC reserve for almost 19 years and was a member of Lendrum's True Blues Orange Lodge.

Ernie is remembered on SEFF’s latest Memorial Quilt - A Patchwork of Innocents and fittingly his patch is placed alongside his colleague and friend in life, Drew Beacom.

SEFF’s thoughts and prayers are with the Smith family today and every day.