

Edmund was born at Glebe in 1893, the son of Martin Joseph Grace and his wife Annie Ellen, nee Cole. Both his parents died in 1912 before Edmund enlisted in E Company, AN&MEF on 11th August 1914. He stated that he was a motor mechanic and single, giving a Miss M Smith, 202 Chalmers St, Sydney as his next of kin. Whilst at Wilhelmshaven he suffered an attack of Malaria, a condition that was to cause him a lot of sickness during the rest of his service.

Edmund returned from Rabaul and was discharged, term expired, on 18th Jan 1915 having completed 161 days service.

On 29th April 1915 he enlisted in the AIF as part of the 8th Reinforcements, 7th Light Horse, regimental number 1199, and left Sydney on 28th July 1915 aboard the SUFFOLK. He was taken on strength by the 7th at their advance base on Mudros on 4th December, returning to Alexandria on 10th Jan 1916 after the Gallipoli withdrawal.

On 18th July 1916 he was given an 80-day detention sentence having been found guilty of being absent without leave from 19th June 1916 till 21st June when he was pick up as a stowaway on the KALEMGA. His detention period expired on 19th September and shortly afterwards, on 1st November, he was promoted corporal (driver).

Edmund spent the entire war in the Middle East and had many periods of hospitalisation with mumps and malaria. He embarked at Suez on 18th December 1918 for return to Australia on the PORT HACKING, disembarking at Melbourne on 27th Jan 1919 before travelling overland to Sydney where he was discharged from the AIF on 29th March 1919.

In 1919 he married Ada M Smith (the girl nominated as his NOK on his AN&MEF enlistment). Ada died in 1923.

Edmund died on 30th April 1930 at the Prince of Wales Hospital and in a death notice lodged with the Sydney Morning Herald, he was identified as the husband of Violet so it is assumed he remarried after Ada's death.