

Cape Field Artillery Fired a 13 Gun Salute at the Funeral of Major General Mxolisi Petane (Ret) MMS, MMB, ST C (Army)

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At the age of 59, Major General Mxolisi Petane passed away in 1 Military Hospital in Pretoria and was laid to rest at Maitland Cemetery with full military honours.

On Saturday 7 October 2017, relatives, friends and comrades of the former Inspector-General Petane paid their respects and tributes during a memorial service held in the NY 49 stadium, Gugulethu.

From Gugulethu his body was taken to his last resting place in the Maitland Cemetery on the Colour Gun of Cape Field Artillery. It was also there where the Ceremonial Troop of CFA fired the 13 Gun Salute.

After joining the ANC and in 1976, its armed wing, uMkhonto we Sizwe, Maj Gen Petane was one of the first recruits from Cape Town who left the country to exile. He received his basic military training in Nova Katenga Angola and furthered his training in the Soviet Union, specializing in Engineering.

He participated in various MK operations inside the country until his capture in 1986. A dedicated and astute commissar, between 1983 and 1985, he served as the Political Commissar Botswana and between 1985 and 1986, he served as the Political Commissar Western Cape, South Africa.

Major Gen Petane was arrested in 1986 and sentenced to 17 years on Robben Island (Prisoner 43/9821) in 1987.

Upon his release, he was elected to the Regional Executive Committee of the ANC in the Western Cape and served in this committee from 1991 until 1993. Following the first democratic elections, Maj Gen Petane was integrated into the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) in 1994 where he continued to serve the nation until his retirement.

In the SANDF, he served as Commandant of the South African Army College and Director Planning at the joint support division. Maj Gen Petane played a pivotal role in restoring our diplomatic relations with Angola and spearheaded the formation of SADC Defence Inspectorate Working Group.

He served as the Inspector General at the Department of Defence from January 2005 until March this year, 2017.



The guard of honour as the procession entered Maitland cemetery.



Members of 9 SAI formed the Leading Detachment, followed by the Gun Tractor and Ceremonial Colour Gun from Cape Field Artillery.



Pallbearers getting into place on either side of the coffin.



The procession going into the cemetery towards the gravesite.



Members of Cape Field Artillery releasing the coffin at the grave.



Cape Field Artillery firing a 13 Gun Salute in honour of Maj Gen Petane.



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