

Jon Kirby Gudmundsson

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Mum mourns loss of son who loved life

by Haydn Long

A MALENY mother wept yesterday as she remembered a son who "loved life" and was always "willing to help people less fortunate than himself".

Jon Kirby Gudmundsson, a 22-year-old private in the 8/9 Royal Australian Regiment at Enoggera, was one of two people killed when his car collided with another vehicle at about 9.30 on Friday night at Ashgrove, on Brisbane's west side.

Yesterday his mother Robin remembered her "loving son" who had lived in Maleny for 12 years and attended the local primary and high school.

"He was a happy-go-lucky person," Mrs Gudmundsson said.

"He was friendly to everybody and anybody. He was the best friend his sister, Michelle, ever had.

"He loved life. What else can you say?"

Mrs Gudmundsson said Jon, her only son, had joined the army two years ago after completing a course

in hospitality and business management.

"He has always been a loving son," she recalled.

"He had his faults, as all young boys do."

Captain David Malcolm, Jon's commanding officer, said the young private was a popular member of the regiment.

"Jon was always cheerful in his approach to his daily duties and he will be sadly missed," he said.

Captain Malcolm said Jon, who was employed as a driver in the transport platoon, was an active member of the battalion, and excelled on the sports field.

"He was a very keen sportsman and one of the strengths of our rugby team," Captain Malcolm said.

"He was noted for his performance on the rugby field and had won a number of awards."

The funeral will be held at 1pm on Friday in the Uniting Church on Landsborough Road in Maleny.



ALWAYS WILLING: Jon Kirby Gudmundsson was one of two people killed in a car crash on Friday night. He will be remembered as a cheerful and loving man.