

Johan 'Madolo' Kloppers (Information provided by Johan Kloppers via Louis Olivier)

Johan Kloppers born on the 27 August 1933 was a long serving member of South African National Parks who started his career in 1953. He started his career on the 1st August 1955 as a junior ranger at the Tshokwane section of the Kruger National Park; he was later promoted to Section Ranger and moved to the Letaba section on the 16th January 1963. He did not remain in Letaba very long and on the 20th November 1963, he moved to the Satara section as the District Ranger for the central region. Johan was later transferred on 1st May 1967 to the Punda Maria section as the District Ranger for the Far North.

He ended his career with one final move to Skukuza as the Chief Ranger on the 1st December 1973 where he served in this position until 1 February 1974, where still he Skukuza he was given the position of the Assistant Director: Nature Management. On the 1st January 1976, Johan was again promoted to the position of Head: Nature Management in Skukuza, and on the 1st July 1979 as Head Manager: Nature Conservation here he remained until his retirement on the 1st November 1993.

Johan has since been living at Mtunzini on the KwaZulu Natal North coast with his wife Pat whom he married on 12 October 1957. Their son Jacobus [Koos] was born on 27 March 1974.

Johan had many highlights in his esteemed career, was the driving force in the development of the first accurate official maps of the KNP, and knew the Kruger National Park better than anybody. He was a foot patroller par excellence covering the better part of the Park leaving his foot prints at places seldom visited since per foot by anybody else.

Apart from his long illustrious career lasting 36 years, Johan will be remembered for two publications:

- *Butterflies of the Kruger National Park.*
- *A Dictionary of Kruger National Park place Names.*

addo elephant

agulhas

augrabies falls

bontebok

golden gate highlands

karoo

kgalagadi transfrontier

knysna lake area

kruger

mapungubwe

marakele

mountain zebra

namaqua

table mountain

tankwa-karoo

tsitsikamma

|ai-|ais/richtersveld

vaalbos

west coast

wilderness