

LUCKY ESCAPE: Keith Rumble sustained shrapnel wounds in the temple.

Murdered man a great defender of liberalism

Daily News Reporter

ONE of the two Weakley brothers killed when their bakkie was ambushed by unknown gunmen near Port St Johns on Tuesday was a strong defender of liberal ideals. 13.4.93.

A friend of Mr Alistair Weakley, Mr Steve Olivier, said the irony of Alistair's death was that he was the strong defender of liberalism.

Alistair, 43, and his brother Glen died during the attack.

Mr Keith Rumble, general manager of Richards Bay minerals, escaped with slight injuries and his seven-year-old son Brent and his 11-year-old friend Thomas O'Keefe only received bruises.

Mr Olivier said Alistair was born at Cofimvaba in Transkei, where slain SACP leader Chris Hani was born, and spoke fluent Xhosa having obtained an honours degree in Xhosa at Rhodes University.

He then went to teach at St Andrews College in Grahamstown. He left the college and went back to Rhodes to study for an Llb degree.

He was a very successful coach of Rhodes University 1st Rugby team for

many years.

He played rugby for Border and was a keen road runner who completed the Comrades' Marathon and the Two Oceans Marathon on several occasions.

He was also an active member of the Democratic Party.

Mr Rumble said they were on a fishing trip to Transkei and were staying at Sinangwana, near Mpandi, about 25km south of Port St Johns.

They went to fish at Brazen Head, which is 5km away from where they were staying, taking Brent and Thomas with them.

When they returned at about 5.45pm, their 4x4 bakkie was attacked by five black men whose maroon bakkie had been parked on the side of the road.

Glen Weakley was a Durban North father of two.

Glen, who worked for a dental supply company, leaves his former wife Shirley, son Trevor, daughter Debbie and two sisters.

Mr Olivier said he was still waiting for Alistair's sister to arrive from Australia for funeral arrangements to be finalised.