Harold Barraclough was born in Brisbane, Qld, in 1894 to parents John Arthur and Frances Jane (nee Hunter). Harold had two brothers, Francis b.1890 in Queensland, and Arthur Henry b.1892 in Victoria. Harold attended state schools in Australia and South Africa.

Harold’s father was the manager of Reuters Telegram Company, Sydney, when he enrolled at HAC in 1909, aged just 16. Harold undertook Practical Courses in 1909 and 1910, and came equal second in the class in 1909.

By September 1910 he was dairying near Dalby in Queensland. At the start of 1911, Harold, and fellow HAC Old Boys Herbert Velvin-Smith, Herbert Sydney Henley, Eric Radclyffe Lane and R.G. Jacobsz undertook the sheep and wool course and the Sydney Technical College. All but Henley served in Australian or South African forces during World War One.

The College Journal reported, February 1914, that Harold had a farm that was doing very well at Pingelly, Western Australia.

Barraclough enlisted in Western Australia on 6 October 1914 in the 10th Light Horse Regiment, A Squadron. Harold embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia, on 8 February 1915 on board HMAT A47 Mashobra.
Harold was Killed in Action on 7 August 1915 at Walker’s Ridge (as part of the assault on the Turkish trenches on The Nek), Gallipoli, Turkey. Harold was 20 years old, and with no known grave, is commemorated at the Lone Pine Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey.

Harold’s brothers, Frank and Arthur Henry, enlisted as privates and were each commissioned in the field. Both returned to Australia in 1919 after the War.