

AUSTRALIAN GUNNER OBITUARY RESOURCE

Terrence Martin (Terry) Walsh

26 May 1943 – 20 November 2023

By Peter Bruce, OAM

Terrence Martin (Terry) Walsh made the front page of the local Griffith newspaper after his death on 20 November 2023. This certainly was a tribute to the esteem in which he was held in his local area. Terry died at Griffith Base Hospital after an eight-month battle with cancer. Terry had only recently made a road trip to Wangaratta to deliver a eulogy for his long-time friend Warren Barnard.

Terry was a Sydney boy who joined the Army in 1965 at the age of 22. He completed his recruit training at Kapooka and was allocated to Artillery. He completed his initial employment training on a gun course at the School of Artillery North Head before a posting to 4th Field Regiment, then barracked at Wacol in Brisbane. He returned to the school to complete an Operator Command Post Field course during 1966 and was promoted to Lance Bombardier.



John Eric (Jock) Jenvey.

4th Field Regiment had been warned out for service in Vietnam. Terry was posted to 108th Field Battery, a subunit of 4th Field Regiment, and deployed to Vietnam with that Battery on 30 April 1967. In Vietnam, Terry was promoted to Bombardier and initially worked in the Battery Command Post. Following an injury to the Battery Commanders Assistant, Terry moved into that Sergeant's position and worked with the then Battery Commander, Major

Terry returned to Australia with the Battery on 14 May 1968. He had been promoted to Sergeant and the 4th Field Regiment moved from Brisbane to Townsville in June 1968. Terry joined the move north and 108th Field Battery was now in training to replace 107th Field Battery in Malaya. Terry and the Battery were farewelled on 30 September 1968 for their new home in Singapore. 108th Field Battery was part of 28th Australia, New Zealand, United Kingdom Brigade (28 ANZUK Brigade) and were based at Selarang



Barracks in

Singapore. Nearly all field training was done in Malaya including jungle training at Kota Tinggi and live firing at Asahan Range.



Terry remained in Singapore with the Battery until his discharge on 6 July 1971 after six years' service. Terry returned to Griffith where he made a significant contribution to the Veteran Community. He was a staunch member of the local RSL Sub-branch and an active member of Legacy for over 37 years. The local Mayor, Doug Curran, commented that his loss would be felt across Griffith. He went on to say of Terry: "He was

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an outstanding individual (who) contributed so much to our community – not only through the RSL and Anzac Day Services but for everything he did for the community.”

Relatives and friends attended a Requiem Mass at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church on Wednesday 29 November 2023 which included an RSL Tribute. Terry is survived by wife Loretta, father and father-in-law of Leah Walsh and Alissa, and Jeremy Woodhouse. Cherished Pa of Tess, Bree, and Emersyn.

Acknowledgments

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- The Walsh Family.