

Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**2834 Private
William Joseph Carty**

56th Battalion



0700907N

56th A.I.F.

Carty W.J. 2384.

(K. Apl. 2/17 Det. D/B)

W.J. Carty who belonged to A. Coy. 1 Plt. was dangerously wounded in the eye during the attack at Louvreval and I saw him sitting under a tree when a shell hit it, killing him instantly. He was wounded at abt. 11 a.m. and killed an hour later. Cpl. Hassen of A. Coy. was in charge of the burial party which picked him up, and his grave is in Louvreval Cemetery. He has a brother serving, I think in the M.T.

Eye-witness: Yes

Description: A thick set, grey haired man, probably over 50.
Had been a schoolmaster.

Informant: Pte. H.J. Arnold 1869,
56th A.I.F., A. Coy., 1 Plt.,
Richmond Military Hospt.,
grove Rd.

A.J. Campbell.

Havre

24th July, 1917.

56th AUSTRALIANS

CARTY, W.J. 2384

K. 2.4.17. Det. D/B.

I knew him well. He was in my company and platoon. I do not know his initials but we called him "Joo" and his number is as stated. He was of medium height, elderly, slightly grey, and was a schoolteacher I believe before he joined. He was killed at Louvreval on the last of Dougnios. We were attacking the place, when he was hit by a shell and killed. He was buried just outside the village with several others who had been killed in the same attack, and as we had not to retire, I am sure that there would be time for the crosses to be placed on the graves. I know nothing further.

Informant: Pte. W.T. Criesp, 2148
56th Australians, A Co., 1st Pltn.,
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

I do D.

56th Battn.
A. I. F.

Carty
Carty.
W. J. 2384

"Killed 2.4.17"

Refer to Pte. W.R. Fraser, 2406, 56th Battalion D.Coy. who is in France, and who wrote ~~some~~ letter while ago telling that he had been killed. It happened on the advance on ~~Lou~~veral. I knew him very well, there being no other of that name in the Battalion.

Witness:-

Pte. D. Fraser 2655
56th Battn. A.Coy.
3rd Aust.Aux.Hospital.

W.Oman.

London.
11.8.17.

S.

Note Written Pte. Fraser 8.8.17

56
56th Battn,
A. Coy,
A.I.F.

CARTY,
W. J.
2584

"Killed 2.4.17."

I saw him wounded at Luvarmilles, he was hit through the eye. He was bandaged up and then a severe snow storm came on, and when I saw him again about two hours afterwards he was dead. Refer to Sgt. W. Hurley. A. Coy. 56th Battn. who is still in France and who can give particulars of burial.

Witness. Sgt. A. Johnson. 2961.
56th Battn. A. Coy.
3rd A.A. Hospital,
Dartford.

H. Oman,
London. 20.8.17.

Note written Sgt. W. Hurley.
20.8.17. S.

A.I.F. 56.

CARTY, W.J. 2384.

K. April 2nd 1917. Dets D/B.

Used to be a school master at Dandeloo, N.S.W. and came over with me in the 5th reinf. I did not see him hit myself and I can only tell what I heard from several men in the 5th Reinf who said they saw what happened to Carty on the 2nd April. I cannot give the names of these men now. They all however told me the same story. That Carty was wounded in the arm soon after we went over at Louvevill shortly after daybreak. He got on his knees and began to pray, and while doing so was hit by a shell and killed. I believe that to be a true account myself and not mere talk. I did not see Carty's body and am unable to say whether it was buried.

Inf: Pte F.H.Upward. 2499. 56.B.VIII
No. 2 A.R.Camp.
BOULOGNE. 25.8.17.

HMH

S.

56th.Batt.A.I.F.

Cartv.W.J. Pte.NO.2384.
A.Coy.

Killed April 2nd 1917. Det.D.B.

I saw him killed by a shell, he was wounded previous to this, and was waiting for the stretcher-bearers, he passed away while waiting. This happened at Louverval. He was buried in the cemetery close by, A cross was erected with number, name, and Batt on. I knew him well. He was a schoolteacher in civilian life, and also an Alderman.

Description. Age.45. Height.5-8. Complexion. Fair.
stoutly Built.

Witness. Sgt Abbot.C.NO.5327.A.Coy.56th.Batt.

Taken At
14th.T.B.Hurdcott.
5-9-17.
S.W.

S.Whitmee.
NO.4 Command Depot.
Codford.

S. Whit

56th Battn
A.I.F.

CARTY
W. J. 2384

"Killed in Action 2.4.17"

re the late 2384 W. J. Carty - There is no doubt that he lost his life at Louverval on April 2nd. The Platoon he was attached to charged to clear a wood from Machine guns and was also under shell fire. He was killed by a shell at edge of the wood. He died instantaneously. The following night (3rd) our Battalion was relieved by another, and as the Germans had "gone back" they buried a number of our dead. However a burial party from our Battalion went back, and the Corporal of one Section of it, who was also of the same Platoon as the late Pte Carty assures me that his body was taken to the Soldiers Cemetery made there near Louverval. The Pioneer Sergeant informs me that those buried there had a small cross erected over their graves, as well as a large cross 6 ft high which was erected with the inscription "Erected to the memory of the Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the 56th Battalion who fell at Louverval on April 2nd/3rd 1917. You would be better able to find out if his cross is in this Cemetery, as I presume it is registered. The late "Joe" Carty was Sgt of the Platoon I came over as Reinforcement, and as that was our first big affair, we went round as soon as possible looking up our comrades. He was very popular with us all. He never "crimed" a bit and we all sincerely mourned his death.

Letter from W. R. Fraser 2406 Pte.
D. Coy. 56th Battn

London 21. 9. 17.

56th Battalion. *K/A 2/4/17* No. 2384 CARTY. Sgt. W.J.

I knew Sgt. Carty; he was very popular with us all and a first class man. He had been a teacher at Goulburn. He was wounded in the big operation at Tuberval early in April. It was in the charge when we took Fritz's trenches, but lost very heavily. It was about the same time as Lieut. Chauncy was killed. He had been a Sgt. Major in camp.

Informant; Sgt. Jagoe, No. 2684,
56th Battalion.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital,
RANDWICK.

H.S.N.
28/9/1917.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

*Sa
6a
Sud*

5th A.I.F.

GARTY A.I. No. 2584.

X. 2nd April 1917. Det D/B.

I saw his dead body lying in the wood at Louvrevall. He left a burying party behind and I am pretty sure he is buried as he was lying in the open, where he could be easily seen. I knew him very well, clean shaven, medium height, rather stout, fair, 35/40.

Inf:- Pte Fairley No. 2649.
Asst. P. 'Ville de Liège'.
Calais. 1.4.17. CR.

S
Ed- 80H

Louvre-Rail on April 2-3
1917. You would be better able
to find out if his bones were
in the cemetery as I presume it
is registered.
The late Mr. Party was Capt.
of the platoon I came over
as an informant and as
that was our first big
fight we went round as
soon as possible looking up
our comrades. He was very
popular with us all - he
never "crimed" a man and
we all sincerely mourned
his death.

Yours sincerely

2466 J. P. Fraser
W. R. D. Co. 56 Bn