

WWII - Michael Patrick (Mick) Ganly

Mary Jane (Girly) Carrucan (1889-1961), a grand daughter of Patrick Carrucan, married Michael Joseph (Mick) Ganly (1881-1955) in 1911 and they had eight children: John (Jack), Ellen (Topsy), Mary F. (Molly), Kathleen, Margaret (Peg), Michael (Mick), Malachi and Alicia.

The sixth child, Michael Patrick (Mick) was born in 1922 in Heidelberg and went to school at St. Pat's Mentone.

Family lore says he was a terror as a child, always escaping when asked to help at home.

It is also noted that he was a great singer and charming to ladies, full of fun and a real Carrucan who could compère any show or concert.

He put his age up to join the army (note his Service Record below lists a birth year of 1917) and was posted to Timor. He was taken Prisoner of War by the Japanese and had to work on the Burma Railway. When he returned he was a skeleton of his former self but, after a few good feeds, used to flex his muscles and say, "Look at this physique." He still had his sense of humour!

Nancy Hunt recalls that Mick had a bad heart and bayonet scars and holes in his back as a result of the war. We hear of how horrific it was for the POW's so can only imagine how Mick suffered.

His WWII Service Extracts read as follows:

Name	GANLY, MICHAEL PATRICK
Service	Australian Army
Service Number	NX41962
Date of Birth	30 Sep 1917
Place of Birth	DEVONPORT, TAS
Date of Enlistment	5 Aug 1941
Locality on Enlistment	EAST SYDNEY, NSW
Place of Enlistment	PADDINGTON, NSW
Next of Kin	HUTCHISON, DOREEN
Date of Discharge	8 Feb 1946
Rank	Driver
Posting at Discharge	A A S C ATT 2/40 AUST INF BN
WW2 Honours and Gallantry	None for display
Prisoner of War	Yes
Service number:	NX41962
Rank:	Private
Unit:	Australian Army Service Corps
Conflict:	Second World War, 1939-1945
Theatre of war:	Timor
Casualty:	Prisoner of War
Location of camp:	Java

He married Jean Garner and they had eight children, Patricia, Heather, Michael, Deidre, Peter, Beverley, Christopher and Mary. He worked with his brother Malachi for many years.

He died in 1962 at the age of 40.