

A FITTING TRIBUTE TO A 4 RAR WARRIOR

We received this exciting news from Noel Balzer, B Coy, SVN 1.

"A short note to tell you about a street to be named after Raymond 'Blue' McGuire.

It will be in a new sub division at Ingleburn Gardens (the old Ingleburn Army barracks area) in Sydney.

The Campbeltown City Council is going to have a ceremony for Blue's relatives and friends to take part in.

Does anyone have a good photo of him? You can send it to me on teresa.balzer@bigpond.com.

I will forward it on to the council.

Blue's mum is still going well; she is 91.

Blue also has a brother.

At this stage they hope to have the work finished in the next 9 months.

Noel Balzer
B Company First Tour SVN."

This is indeed very exciting news and when the final dates for the ceremony are released, I am sure that Blue's mother and his family would like all to attend the ceremony.

Blue was killed in Action in South Vietnam on 16 February 1969.

VIETNAM

1 Australian Reinforcement Unit 06/03/1968 to 24/03/1968
2nd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment 25/03/1968 to
01/06/1968
4th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment 02/06/1968 to
16/02/1969

From the book, In The ANZAC Spirit, pages 165 and 166, by LtCol Brian Avery (Retd), in part;

"Company Headquarters had borne the brunt of the initial fire from the enemy and the company commander, Major Bill Reynolds, found himself temporarily without radio

communications, having been separated from his radio operator during the initial confusion. The B Company casualties included radio operator Cpl W.D. Maumill, LCpl R.E. Smith and the CSM, WO2 'Jock' Richardson MM..... Pte Raymond McGuire and Pte Victor Petersen, had been hit badly by pellets from the initial explosion of the command-detonated mine suffering multiple penetrating wounds. Petersen was killed outright ... Under covering fire from the tanks and the rifle platoons, the stretcher bearers of the company brought the wounded back under fire to the sheltered area behind the tank troop, where they were given first aid while the evacuation was arranged. For his part in rescuing the casualties, the company's medical assistant, Cpl Wayne Brown, earned a Military Medal. With the number of casualties mounting, the Regimental Medical Officer, Capt Dave Lewis, had commandeered a 161 Recce Flight Sioux helicopter and flew into B Coy to assist, landing and sheltering behind the tanks as he undertook emergency treatment in an attempt to save the lives of the most seriously wounded. In spite of his efforts, Pte McGuire succumbed to his wounds."

It is interesting to note that Mitchelton High School in Brisbane dedicates it's ANZAC Day service to Pte Vic Petersen, an old boy of the school and that the ceremony is attended by Vic's family and members of the 4 RAR Association, Qld.

If anyone has a good photo of Ray, could you please send it directly to Noel via his email address?

Alan Price