

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

1562 Private  
James Daly (James  
Hart)

57th Battalion



1280910L

57th batt. A. F.

Hart, J. Pte. No 1562

Missing Sept 27th 1917

He was a H. Quarters bomber the same as myself, we were together in the front lines during the advance at Poyon Wood. I was wounded shortly after, when in hospital I heard that Hart was missing, so I wrote a mate of mine Pte Grundy, in H. Q. bombers, and he stated that he found Hart's Body and buried him. I knew him well, he came from Victoria, and worked on a farm there. He was a native of Ireland, and spoke very good. He was known as Paddy in the Batt.

Description. Age. 26. Complexion. Dark.

Witness. Pte. Armstrong, E. J. NO. 4430. H. Qtrs bombers.

Taken Lt

NO. 3. Command depot

See Pte Grundy's letter Mr German. 20-4-18.

*Missing*

A.I.F. 57th Bn

HART  
J. 1562

"M. 27-9-17"

Killed in action 27-9-17 - previously reported Missing  
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqs 8-5-18.

London  
10-5-18

OFF.M.

A.I.P. 57.

HART Pte. J. 1562.  
& two others.

KIA  
4. Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> 1918.

I knew Pate Hart and McCracken. We were in action together at Polygon Wood. Things were getting warm and they took cover in a shell hole. I can swear that a shell dropped and blew the shell hole to smithereens.

Inf. Sgt. Howard. C. Coy.  
S.S Staal Antwerpen.  
CALAIS. 8.5 18.

SAA,

by M  
ed

59th Btn.

HART, J.  
Pte. 1562.

Kld. in act. 27/9/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a tall man, about 5 ft. 11 ins. slightly built, dark complexion, about 28 years of age, known as "James". Casualty was in a shell hole at Polygon Wood on the 16th September, 1918. An H.E. shell exploded in the shell hole killing him instantly and Pte. H. T. Pace and J. M. McCracken. I was in another shell hole alongside and I saw Casualty's body immediately afterwards. He was most severely wounded all over. I do not know if Casualty was ever buried."

Informant:- Sgt. W. Bennett,  
No. 1511, 59th Btn.

Private address:-  
31 Hunter Street,  
Abbotsford.

T.C.F.  
31/1/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

Well  
Ed  
K-A

59th. Bn.

HART. JRs. No. 1562.

Killed in Action 27.9.17.

I knew Casualty, he was dark, well built, 5'8" in height, about 30 years of age, known as "Paddy".  
Casualty with me and two others, Pte. Pace, and Pte. McCracken, when the enemy put over a very heavy barrage, which buried me, and killed Casualty, and Pte. Pace,. I do not know what happened to their bodies.

Informant:-

Pte. W. Stokes, No. 4603,

Private address:-

Ashley Street

Ironbark.

Bendigo.

S.V.P.

28.11.19.

Australian Red Cross Information Bureau, Melbourne.

59th. Btn.

HART. J. Pte. I562.

Killed in Action 27.9.17.

I was not an eye-witness, but was speaking to above about 5 o'clock on the night of the 28th., when later the Germans put over a barrage, and Hart was not seen again. This happened in Glencourse Wood, he was of medium build, dark was an Irishman, good natured, and about 5'8" in height.

Informant:- L/Cpl. W. Stokes,  
Private address, Ashley Street,  
Bendigo, Victoria.

Further information could perhaps be obtained from Cpl. Hudson,  
Heathcote, Victoria.

F.A. Savory.  
H.M.A.T. Devon.  
2.12.19.

See PAGE. H.T.  
No 2075 57 BK

57th Infantry, A. I. F.

Hart, Pte J. 1562,

(K. Sept. 27th/17)

"I received a letter from Pte W. Gundry, H.Q. Bomber at the end of October, telling me that he had found Pte Hart lying dead, side by side with Pte Pace, just over the parapet near Polygon Wood. Hart was a H.Q. Bombar."

Eye-witness: To, told by Pte W. Gundry, H.Q. Bomber,  
now in France

Description: From Ireland, a Farm labourer in Australia,  
very dark, about 5'7", single, about 28, known  
as "Paddy", wore the Gallipoli ribbon

Informant: Pte Edward Armstrong, 4430,  
57th Infantry, A. I. F., H.Q. Coy,  
5th Southern General Hospital,  
Milton Section, Portsmouth.

Home address:  
348, Montagna St,  
Albert Park, Victoria.

20th Nov. 1917.  
Elsie C. Hughes.

Written by Pte. Gundry 30-11-17

off do

57th Bata  
AIF #972

HART  
J. 1562

"Missing 27.9.17."

Refer to Pte. W. Gundry 57th Bata Hdqtrs who is now in France and who saw him killed by a shell at Passchendaele and can give full details.

Witness:-

Pte. C. J. Armstrong 4430  
57th Bata Hdqtrs  
3rd A.A. Hpl.  
Dartford

W. Omen  
London.

28.12.17.

Note written Pte. Gundry 20.12.17.

Off. M.



87th Bn.  
A.I.F.

HART  
J. 1562

Missing 27.9.17.

Concerning Pte. J. Hart Hqrs 87th Bn. A.I.F. - He was last seen on the night of the 27.9.17 and a heavy barrage was laid down by the Huns and he was not seen again. Height about 5 ft. 9 ins. Dark, medium build.

Letter written By Pte. W. J. Gundry.  
In the Field,  
5.1.18.

London.  
22.1.18

OFAA.