



FLIGHT MALAYSIA AIR MH17 AND NICK NORRIS LOVED BY HIS TROOPS

Peter Adamis 18 July 2014

It is with great sadness to hear of the untimely death of Nick Norris. I first heard of his death whilst driving home from lunch with some ex Army coppers. During my drive along St Georges Road, I turned on the radio and heard the announcement that a chap from Perth named Nick Norris had passed away. My thoughts immediately went to the only Nick Norris that I knew of and that was my ex Commanding Officer of 11 Independent Company The Royal West Australian Regiment.

Secondly my secondary thoughts went to my old mate Barrie Daniel now residing in Tasmania and reminded myself to ring him when I got home. Barrie was one of my soldiers and a good friend throughout the past 30 odd years. Barrie and I had both served under Nic Norris in West Australia. Sure enough, as soon as I got home Barrie was on the phone to me confirming that it was Nick Norris our former Commanding Officer.

The first time that I met with Nick Norris was in December 1981 when I had journeyed to my new unit during a reconnaissance trip to ascertain what the unit was about and to obtain my bearings. After being introduced to the number of Regular Army Cadre staff of which I was part of, I was interviewed by Nick Norris. Nick was a no nonsense man, who did not suffer fools gladly and had a professional approach to his military status and that of his responsibilities to the soldiers under his command.

Although Nick Norris was a Reserve Army Officer, he was extremely supportive and loyal to his Regular army Cadre staff who formed the nucleus of his military advisers. It was our responsibility to ensure that the Commanding officer was provided with the best advice possible and ensured that the administrative, logistics and tactical aspects of the unit were carried out in a professional manner. Nick Norris was no fool as he had experience with Regular army staff in the past and had a good grasp of tactics and how to run a military organisation operate like clockwork. He knew every soldier by name and often knew of their personal lives making him informed at all times about the lives of the soldiers under his command.

He knew his military history backwards and was extremely proud to have been given the responsibility of leading the unit throughout his tenure. He was aware of the huge responsibility placed upon his shoulders as the unit was famous during WW1 and WW2 where he was involved during the battles for Greece and Crete. Soldiers came to admire him for his knowledge, tenacity and commitment to the unit and soldiers alike and one could say that they would follow him anywhere. In fact long after I had been reposted back to the Eastern States, the name of Nick Norris kept cropping up over the years and of his rise to Lieutenant Colonel.

Nick was a great family man, a good lodge member and of those responsible for introducing me in to the lodge via the now defunct Mount Hawthorne lodge in West Australia. Nick will certainly be missed and those who have met and known him will also be thinking of him this day. Condolences to his family and may his journey into the next world be a peaceful one.



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PERTH MAN NICK NORRIS, GRANDCHILDREN ON BOARD MALAYSIA AIR MH17



July 18, 2014 Aleisha Orr_Reporter, WA Today Perth man Nick Norris. Perth man Nick Norris and three of his grandchildren are among seven West Australians who died when Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 was shot down over Ukraine overnight.

Emergency workers at MH17 crash. *Photo: Reuters.* While authorities are yet to confirm names of those on board, Fairfax Media understands Mr Norris' family - including his wife in Perth - have been informed of deaths. WA Premier Colin Barnett has just confirmed seven of the passengers on the ill-fated plane were from WA. He released a statement saying he was "horrified and deeply shocked" to hear about the crash involving the Malaysia Airlines plane in the Ukraine overnight. "I have been informed that seven West Australians are among the 27 Australians confirmed dead," Mr Barnett said.



Perth man Nick Norris and three of his grandchildren are among the 298 victims. He said if reports that the plane was shot down by terrorists were correct it was a "truly unspeakable - and incomprehensible - act". On behalf of all West Australians, I wish to express my deepest sympathy to the families of all the victims and, in particular, the West Australian families involved," Mr Barnett said.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has the primary responsibility for notifying the families of victims and Western Australia Police are now doing what they can to assist. The Boeing 777 en route from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur was shot down in separatist-controlled eastern Ukraine, claiming the lives of 298 passengers and crew. It is understood Mr Norris, a managing director of a Perth-based change management consultancy company, was in Europe on holiday. It is believed he often travelled to the United Kingdom for work.



MH17 DISASTER: 298 DEAD AFTER MALAYSIA AIRLINES PASSENGER PLANE CRASH

The wreckage of the Malaysian airliner carrying 298 people from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur.

Photo: AFP PHOTO Alexander KHUDOTEPLY

A member of the South Perth Yacht Club - of which Mr Norris was also a member - described him as "a lovely bloke" while speaking to Radio 6PR reporter Lisa Barnes. The man said Mr Norris often stuck around for a beer after sailing to "talk about life". South Perth Yacht Club commodore Paul Ward said his death came as a shock to close-knit yachting community, and that the club would do everything possible to support his wife Lindy and his family. "I got a phone call at half past six this morning, and it was quite devastating really," he said.

"I sailed with Nick many years ago in the Flying 15s when we were both young enough to do that." "You always hear about these things and you always think about the poor people and families involved, but when it cuts close to home it's a lot more real and a lot more difficult to deal with. "Nick and Lindy were very active members of the club, their children grew up through the club system. "They were always active in supporting and volunteering and Nick will be very sadly missed.

"The club's a good community and we always get behind any member that has a loss, especially Nick and Wendy, they're not old people and still very active boaters." Deputy Prime Minister Julie Bishop said MH17 was believed to be connecting to Perth, although Perth Airport is yet to confirm this. A spokeswoman for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade described the loss of MH17 as a tragedy. "Malaysia Airlines advised that there were 298 people on board and there are no survivors of the crash," she said. "They further confirmed there were 27 Australians on board MH17.

The nationalities of all of those on board are not yet known so the final number may be higher. The department is contacting the families of the Australians involved and offering counselling and consular assistance." She confirmed Australian officials, including a consular crisis specialist, were preparing to travel to Kiev to assist local officials with the recovery of Australians involved. If you have any concerns for the welfare of Australian family or friends, you should attempt to directly contact them. If you are unable to contact them and still hold concerns for their welfare, you should call DFAT's 24-hour Consular Emergency Centre on + 61 2 6261 3305 from overseas, or within Australia on 1300 555 135 (local call cost).

Malaysia Airlines has also established a call centre in Malaysia (+603 7884 1234) and The Netherlands (+317 0348 7770). The nationalities of all of those on board are not yet known so the final number may be higher. The Department is contacting the families of the Australians involved and offering counselling and consular assistance. The news of Perth victims comes after widow Danica Weeks spoke on 6PR expressing her sympathy for families that may have been affected by the tragedy.

<http://www.watoday.com.au/wa-news/malaysia-air-mh17-perth-man-nick-norris-grandchildren-on-board-20140718-zudnt.html>

MALAYSIA AIRLINES MH17: PERTH MAN NICK NORRIS AND GRANDCHILDREN AMONG VICTIMS

National Reporting Team Caitlyn Gribbin and Dale Owens



A man and his three young grandchildren were returning to Perth from a family holiday when they died on board the Malaysian Airlines jet that was shot down over Ukraine. Nick Norris, 68, and the three youngsters were among seven West Australians who perished when a surface-to-air missile hit the plane, killing all 298 passengers and crew. Flight MH17 was en route from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur when it came down in rebel-held territory near Ukraine's border with Russia. Confirming the WA death toll Premier Colin Barnett said he was "horrified and deeply shocked" to hear about the crash.

Mr Norris's son, Brack, 24, said his father had been accompanying the children; Mo, Evie, and Otis Maslin aged 12, 10 and 8 respectively, home. Their parents had remained in Amsterdam for a few more days but Mr Norris was bringing the children home to return to school. Brack Norris described the situation as "surreal" and thought it was "ridiculous" when a sister called from Sydney earlier today to tell him the plane had been shot down. "I couldn't believe it," he said.

"I thought it was just ridiculous but yes, it's clearly not." Mr Norris paid tribute to his father and the children. "I loved my dad extraordinarily and they were amazing kids," he said. "They were very intelligent kids and they loved doing their sports, like surfing and that kind of thing." Earlier today David Harries from the South of Perth Yacht Club, where Mr Norris was a member, said DFAT had confirmed Mr Norris and his three grandchildren were on the manifest of the flight but had been awaiting further information. Another yacht club member, also named Nick, told Fairfax Radio he was incredibly saddened to hear of Mr Norris' death.

"He was just a lovely bloke, he was always happy to have a chat to anybody that wanted to have a chat to him," he said. "He was always trying to learn how to get better at sailing. "We were lucky enough to sit down and have a beer with him after sailing and he'd just talk about life, he was just a really good bloke, his wife was always there to help around the club and at our events and they'll be missed, well, he'll be missed." Mr Norris was married with four adult children and lived in Perth.

According to his LinkedIn profile, Mr Norris was the managing director at Collaborative Systemic Change. His profile said: "Nick has over 30 years experience in organisational development, which in recent years has included systemic change". "He has developed an internet based change management system and conducts training courses for facilitators in Australia and the UK." He was educated at the University of Western Australia.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-07-18/perth-man-nick-norris-confirmed-dead-in-mh17-crash/5607322>



MURDOCH UNIVERSITY TOUCHED BY TRAGIC AIRLINE CRASH

18/Jul/2014 Emma Clayton, Melville Times

Murdoch University mourns former staff member Nick Norris who was killed in the Malaysia Airline flight 17 crash.

FORMER Murdoch University staff member Nick Norris has been remembered by colleagues after he was killed when Malaysia Airlines flight 17 crashed in Ukraine. The Applecross-based South of Perth Yacht Club member was travelling on the flight with three of his grandchildren, who also died in the crash. Murdoch University Vice Chancellor Professor Richard Higgott offered condolences from the university to Nick's wife Lindy, a senior lecturer in education who has worked at the university for 20 years. "I would like to extend my deepest sympathies and those of the Murdoch University family to our colleague Lindy Norris and her family on the tragic loss of her husband Nick Norris and their three grandchildren," he said.

"Nick Norris was a member of the Murdoch University community between 1991 and 2006 and the news of his passing has deeply saddened staff. "The Murdoch University community is devastated for our colleague Lindy who has been a part of the Murdoch fabric for more than 20 years. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Lindy and her family at this very tragic and devastating time."

<http://www.inmycommunity.com.au/news-and-views/local-news/Murdoch-University-touched-by-tragic-airline-crash/7662579/>

NATION MOURNS LOSS OF 28 AUSTRALIANS

AAP *July 18, 2014*

How Australia has reacted to the downing of Malaysia airlines flight mh17 in Ukraine: "As things stand this looks less like an accident than a crime. We owe it to the dead and their families, we owe it to the peace and stability of the wider world, to establish the facts and we will do all we humanly can to bring that about." - Prime Minister Tony Abbott tells parliament it seems Russian-backed rebels shot down the plane. "The bullying of small countries by big ones, the trampling of justice and decency in the pursuit of national aggrandisement and reckless indifference to human life should have no place in our world." - Tony Abbott says the conflict between Russia and Ukraine must end. "This is a violation of the rules of civilisation." - Opposition Leader Bill Shorten. "Putin now has Australian blood on his hands. He has no respect for the international community, he does what he feels, he's a power monger.

Trying to point the finger at Ukraine is disgusting." - Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organisations chairman Stefan Romaniw. "For people to be innocently travelling on a world airline and to be shot out of the sky is absolutely horrific." - Victorian Premier Denis Napthine as he confirms nine Victorians are believed to be among the dead. "Like all Queenslanders, I was shocked, outraged, dismayed and deeply saddened. It's hard not to get angry and emotional about it." - Queensland Premier Campbell Newman, as he confirms nine people from the state are dead. "At this stage, reports do seem to indicate that the plane was shot down by terrorists and, if so, this is a truly unspeakable - and incomprehensible - act." - Premier Colin Barnett as he confirms seven West Australians were killed in the disaster.

"Here are people trying to manage a global epidemic and we've got an act of war that destroys them." - University of Melbourne Professor Rob Moodie mourns delegates who died on route to the 20th International AIDS Conference in the Victorian capital. "He was just a lovely bloke. He'll be missed." - A friend of South Perth Yacht Club member Nick Norris, who is believed to have perished along with three of his grandchildren. "He said they are on the flight and they'll be home tomorrow ... but they just didn't make it." - Hume City Councillor Jack Ogilvie tells of chatting only yesterday to the son of lost Victorian couple Albert and Maree Rizk, who were on their way home from a month-long holiday. "It's a bit surreal to think that one day later and I wouldn't be here talking with you right now." - Adelaide woman Simone La Posta, and her partner, were meant to be on the doomed flight. They are alive because they changed their plans and left Amsterdam a day early.

<https://au.news.yahoo.com/a/24496420/nation-mourns-loss-of-27-australians/>