

WATSON, Murray

Zalmona Murray Watson, the second of four children, all boys, was born to William Herbert Watson and Alice Ladhams in 1898, the same year that his older brother Norman James Leslie died as an infant.

Just a year after enlisting and three months after landing in France, Murray was killed in action on 5 July 1918. Newspaper tributes after his death included one from his workmates at the Meter Department, Melbourne City Council Electric Supply, and another from members of the Carlton Cycling Club.

Of his two younger brothers, Gordon Seaton Watson enlisted in the AIF during the Second World War, and Russell Kimpton Walker died in Carlton in 1939.

AIF Project Entry

Zalmona Murray WATSON

Regimental number	3610
Place of birth	Carlton Victoria
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Electrician
Address	141 Neill Street, Carlton, Victoria.
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	19
Next of kin	Father, William Herbert Watson, 141 Neill Street, Carlton, Victoria.
Previous military service	8th Australian Field Artillery Brigade
Enlistment date	4 July 1917
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	3rd Pioneer Battalion, Reinforcement 8
AWM Embarkation Roll number	14/15/3
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board HMAT A71 <i>Nestor</i> on 21 November 1917.
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board RMS <i>Ormonde</i> on 2 March 1918.
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	60th Battalion
Fate	Killed in Action 5 July 1918
Place of burial	Mericourt L'Abbe Communal Cemetery Extension (Plot III, Row F, Grave 1), France
Panel number, Roll of Honour, Australian War Memorial	171

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AWM: Roll of Honour

Private Murray Watson



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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Descripton

Studio portrait of 3610 Private (Pte) Zalmona Murray Watson, 3rd Pioneer Battalion from Carlton, Victoria. A 19 year old electrician prior to enlisting on 4 July 1917, he embarked for overseas with the 8th Reinforcements from Melbourne on 21 November 1917 aboard HMAT *Nestor*.

After further training in Egypt and England, he transferred to the 60th Infantry Battalion in February 1918 and deployed to France in April 1918.

Pte Watson was killed in action at Morlancourt, France on 5 July 1918 and is buried in the Mericourt-L'Abbe Communal Cemetery Extension, France.