The sacrifice of Darwin’s Filipino-Australians in World War II

MIGUEL LOUIS PEREZ (1924–1945)

Served as: 432010 Acting Flying Officer Michael Louis Perez, Royal Australian Air Force

Born in Darwin on 19 August 1924, the third child of Rafael and Pantaleona Mary Perez, and a grandson of Rafael Ponce from the Philippines.

Killed in action on 6 January 1945 over Houffalize in the Belgian Ardennes whilst captain of Avro Lancaster Mk III bomber ‘NE168’ from No. 207 Squadron RAF (Bomber Command), aged 20.

Buried in a collective grave in the Houffalize Municipal Cemetery on Rue du Liège, Belgium.

Commemorated on the Darwin Cenotaph and by ‘Perez Street’ in Wanguri (named on 7 April 1971).

Commemorated in Canberra on the Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memorial (panel 128).

JOSEPH LOUIS CESAR CONANAN (1926–1946)

Served as: QX61563 Sapper Joseph Louis Conanan, 12th Water Transport Operating Company AIF

Born in Darwin on 21 July 1926, the third child and first son of Elias and Lorenza Conanan, and a grandson of Tolentino Garcia Conanan (1858–1921) from Ybajay on Panay Island in the Philippines.

Died of septicaemia from a ruptured appendix on 1 March 1946, aged 19.

Buried in Cairns War Cemetery, North Queensland.

Commemorated on the Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memorial (panel 85).