

COOPER Richard Amos

Name: Richard Amos Cooper

Born: 6 November 1909

Rank: Sergeant

Service Number:

Regiment: 287th Field Company,
Royal Engineers

Died: 24 January 1989



Pre War:

Richard was born in Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. He married Enid on 8 November 1939. He was also a Special Constable and a member of St John Ambulance Brigade.

Wartime experience:

Richard enlisted on 21 June 1939 and trained to become a carpenter/joiner. He sailed overseas as part of the 18th Division on 28 October 1941 aboard USS Mount Vernon. He arrived on 13 January 1942 and was captured at the fall of Singapore on 15 February 1942. Both Richard and his younger brother, Stanley, were held in Changi camp under Lt Colonel Holmes. They both worked on the Thai/Burma railway. Sadly, Stanley didn't survive and died on 30 May 1943 at the age of 23.

Richard survived and arrived back in the UK on 23 October 1945 and was discharged on 12 April 1946.



Civilian life after return:

Richard and Enid had two daughters – Jean (born 7 May 1941) and Marion (born 2 August 1946). The family moved to Great Shelford in 1960, where Richard was Postmaster until he retired in 1973, he was also a member of both the Singapore Club and the Royal British Legion. Enid sadly passed away in 1986, so when he retired, he moved to Outwell and helped Jean, run the Post Office and shop until shortly before he passed away in 1989. He was a devoted grandfather to Marion's four children, his grandchildren – Wendy, Stuart, Laurence and Sarah. Sadly, Richard passed away on 24 January 1989 at the age of 79. His eldest daughter, Jean passed away on 21 April 2014.



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