



Walter Standish GySgt

1901-1942

BIRTH 16 JUL 1901 • Vilnius, Vilniaus, Lithuania 547-46-5941

DEATH 1 MAR 1942 • died on Java prior to being taken as POW

Facts

Age 0 – Birth

16 Jul 1901 • Vilnius, Vilniaus, Lithuania 547-46-5941

Age 25 – Naturalization

22 Sep 1926 • San Diego, CA

Age 33 – Military

Dec 1934 • Marine Barracks, Navy Yard, Mare Island, California

USMC Sgt SN 157031

Age 34 – Residence

1935 • San Diego, San Diego, California

Age 38 – Residence

1939 • San Diego, California

Age 39 – Military

NOV 1940 • Uss Honolulu, Pearl Harbor, T H

Age 39 – Residence

1940 • San Diego, CA

Age 40 – Military

1 MAR 1942 • Java

Is said to been one of the last men to abandon ship; we seen firing twin-50s at IJN destroyers

Age 40 – Death

1 MAR 1942 • died on Java prior to being taken as POW

see attached note

Military

Jan 1943 • Missing Persons Detachment, Hq US Marine Corps

his remains were never recovered


Burial

1948 • Manila, Philippines

Plaque of the Missing 56757896

Family

Parents

 **US dcd non-POWs**
1941-

Spouse

Sources

Ancestry sources



1940 United States Federal Census



Ancestry Family Trees



U.S. Marine Corps Muster Rolls, 1798-1958



U.S. Marine Corps Muster Rolls, 1798-1958



U.S. Marine Corps Muster Rolls, 1798-1958



U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995



U.S., Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, Unaccounted-for Remains, Group A (Recoverable), 1941-1975



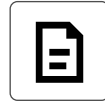
U.S., Headstone and Interment Records for U.S. Military Cemeteries on Foreign Soil, 1942-1949



U.S., Naturalization Record Indexes, 1791-1992 (Indexed in World Archives Project)



U.S., Navy Casualties Books, 1776-1941

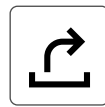


U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007



U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014

Web links



FINDaGRAVE

<https://www.findagrave.com/me...>

Notes

The USS HOUSTON Association crew list citation lists him KIA as if he had not made it ashore. Technically, he was not a POW, yet he may have been the first to die on Java. Makes one wonder if others survived the night in the water only to be killed by the IJA or perhaps even natives that next morning. Standish Walter G/SGT USMC 3/1/42 USS Houston Enemy Action Perhaps the first death on Java on the morning of 1 MAR, was a USMC Gunny Sgt. It is reported by another POW that GSgt Walter Standish came ashore with a small group, but he immediately cleared and cleaned his .45 pistol and struck off alone into the jungle. He was never seen again. He undoubtedly died in that jungle but how and when and by whose hand, will never be known. His remains were never recovered and he is memorialized on the Plaque of the Missing in Manila. The USS Houston Association crew roster simply lists him as KIA on 1 MAR 42, as if he was one of the many who did not make it out of the water. Thanks to Hospital Mate Griff Douglas' account we know differently. [1] Douglas, Griff L. (OH 0425) USNV SN 3564416 ----- From FINDaGRAVE Gunnery Sergeant Walter Standish was a senior NCO of the Marine detachment aboard the cruiser USS Houston. He served as the ship's gunnery sergeant, and as an assistant to the officer in charge of the .50 caliber anti-aircraft guns. Standish was last seen at his battle station on the night of 28 February 1942, during the battle of Sunda Strait. After relieving the last of his men, Gunny Standish took hold of one of the guns and fired away at a Japanese warship until the Houston sank beneath the waves. Standish's body was never found, and he was officially declared dead on 15 December 1945.