



# THE UNITED PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS UNION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA CIRCULAR

President: Alan Crossman

Secretary: John Marsh

CIRCULAR NO: 90/2026

30 October 2026

## VALE – Retired Station Officer Gary James Clifford

### Attention All Members

The United Professional Firefighters Union is saddened to advise Members of the passing of retired Station Officer **Gary James Clifford (Service No. 7706)** on 22 October 2026.

Gary joined the Western Australian Fire Brigades on 19 September 1975, commencing his career at Trainee Firefighter School No. 16 in Belmont.

Following his graduation, Gary served at Perth and Cannington Fire Stations before being promoted to Station Officer in 1985. He subsequently served at Maddington, Perth, Northam and Welshpool Fire Stations, retiring on 6 August 2009 after 33 years and 10 months of dedicated service to the Western Australian community.

Beyond his operational career, Gary was a passionate and committed unionist who made an outstanding contribution to improving the working conditions and entitlements of career firefighters.

Gary was a member of the inaugural Committee of Management of the United Firefighters Union of Western Australia in 1990 and served on various Union committees throughout his career. He also represented his colleagues as a Union Delegate at Belmont and Welshpool Fire Stations.

Gary was particularly passionate about protecting and improving firefighters' superannuation entitlements. He served for several years as the firefighter representative on the WA Fire Brigades Superannuation Fund Board, regularly sharing his knowledge and advocating for Members through discussions at stations and articles published in the Union's *Turnout* magazine.

His commitment to fellow firefighters extended beyond industrial matters. Gary was an early member of the Peer Support Group and contributed many years of service to the Critical Incident Stress Committee, supporting colleagues through the challenges of the job.

In recognition of his exceptional contribution to the Union and his advocacy for firefighters' superannuation, Gary received the prestigious Jack Dennis Award for Excellence in 2007, one of the highest honours bestowed upon a Union Member.

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Gary was also a Graduate of the Institution of Fire Engineers, having successfully completed his examinations in 1989.

Gary's contribution to the firefighting profession and the Union extended well beyond his years of operational service. His commitment to improving the lives and working conditions of fellow firefighters leaves a lasting legacy, and one that continues to benefit Members today.

The UPFU extends its sincere condolences to Gary's family, including his younger brother and fellow firefighter Brad Clifford, his friends and all those who had the privilege of working alongside him.

### **Funeral Arrangements**

**Date:** Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> November

**Time:** 1000hrs

**Location:** Bowra and O'Dea, Midland

Members wishing to pay their respects are encouraged to attend.

**Rest in Peace, Gary.**

**Strength in Unity,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Marsh'.

John Marsh  
Secretary

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