MORRIS, Alfred James "Sonny" 26 March 1954

Designation	Accident Location	Accident Due to
Head Shunter	Geraldton	Shunting Operations

Alfred Morris was 36 years of age when he died as the result of an accident involving a loose shunted wagon while on shunting duties at Geraldton Yard. The accident occurred on 24 March 1954 and Alfred passed away two days later on the 26th. He left his wife Joyce and four young children Graham, Janet, Kerry and Colin. Alfred lived with his family in Geraldton and is interred at Geraldton Cemetery.

Information provided by his son Graham and Daughter in law Ros. (MP3) Additional information provided by his Cousin, Hugh Ash. March 2016.

Truck Traps Shunter At Geraldton
GERALDTON, Thurs.
A 35 year old head shunter, Alfred James Morris married of Elizabeth Street, Geraldton, was injured at work in the Geraldton railway yards yesterday and was admitted to the Victoria District Hospital in a critical condition.

It was said that, while Mr. Morris was directing a loaded railway truck weighing about 1 tons on to a branch line, one of his feet became caught between two point rods. This caused him to overbalance and fall on to the railway line in the path of the moving truck. The truck had been shunted by an engine and was moving very slowly its leading wheels bore down on Mr. Morris and rose up off the line to come to rest on his thigh. Members of the engine crew tried to push the loaded truck off the injured man and finally succeeded with the aid of a length of timber. Mr. Morris was then taken to hospital in an ambulance. His pelvis was crushed and his left leg partly severed. The leg was amputated at the hip last night. Mr. Morris's name is on the danger list.

Source: *Trove/The West Australian (Perth) Friday 26 March 1954 Page 8.*

GERALDTON, Fri.
Alfred James Morris (35), head shunter at the Geraldton railway yards, died at the Victoria District Hospital this morning. His death followed amputation of his left leg after an accident in which he was pinned beneath a railway truck in Geraldton railway yards.

Mr. Morris has left a widow and four young children. He will be buried tomorrow morning in the Anglican Cemetery at Utakarra.

This afternoon the W.A.G.R. District Traffic Superintendent (Mr. C. Down) paid a tribute to the prompt action of employees of the Timber Industries Company who helped railway men to move the loaded railway truck which had pinned Mr. Morris.

Source: *Trove/The West Australian (Perth) Saturday 27 March 1954 Page 20.*