



The first British military funeral in Ireland since it was partitioned more than 80 years ago took place in Dublin on the 24th of April 2003 with the burial of L/Cpl Ian Malone, a piper and soldier of the Irish Guards. (2nd left in picture).

The Irish Guards, formed in 1900 by order of Queen Victoria to mark the bravery of the Irish Soldiers who fought in the Boar War, were the personal guard of the late Queen Mother.

The regimental pipers wear the saffron kilt and green cape.

History was made when a bearer party dressed in their No 2 khaki uniforms carried the coffin of Ian who died in an ambush in Basra alongside the regiment's first black piper Christopher Muzvuru. It was the first time since British troops marched out of Dublin Castle in 1922 that, outside of certain Irish ports, the Army has been on the streets of the Republic of Ireland.

More than 2,000 people, including at least 60 Irishmen in blazers and Irish Guard regimental tie, watched the coffin of L/Cpl Malone carried through the rain from the church and through the streets past his home in Ballyfermot.

Two sergeants, a corporal, two guardsmen and a drummer, carried the coffin. Two pipers played, one from the British Army, and one from the Irish Defense forces.



No flags were placed on the coffin at the request of the family and the gardai escorted the procession.

The funeral was held less than two miles from Phoenix Park where there is a memorial to 36,000 Irishmen who died fighting for Britain in the First World War.

To return use BACK button on Browser.