



Bertram Mercer

“Seaman”

Mercantile Marine

World War II

Born: 29 Jul 1916

Died: 12 Apr 1981

Place of Birth: Bay Roberts, Conception Bay, Newfoundland

Parents: William and Mary Mercer

Bertram was the fourth (4th) child born to William and Mary Mercer of Bay Roberts. In all the children were (in order from eldest to youngest), Hubert, Jessie, Roland, Bertram, Benjamin, William, Mary, and Annie.

The Newfoundland general census of 1921 lists the following entries:

1. William and Mary are 37 and 35 respectively

2. Children, Hubert is 10, Jessie 8, Roland 6, Bertram 5, and Benjamin 2
3. Also residing in the household is Willam’s mother, Eileen who is 75 and nephew Wilfred who is 17.

The 1935 census has the Mercer family living in the Bay Roberts but in a part locally known as “Beachy Cove.” At this enumeration, Bertram is 15 and still in school.

According to records, Bertram, in 1941, now working as a seaman married Emily Sutton of Salford, Lancashire County, England.

By early February 1942, he is found living in Allston, Massachusetts, and working at the Lewis Sheppard and Company. He is described as being 6 feet tall, 170 lbs, of ruddy complexion and having brown hair with blue eyes.

The 1957 Canada’s voters list has Bertram living in St. John’s West and working as a welder.

As of 1995 – 2000, Bertram is listed in the Newfoundland phone directory at Church Hill, Bay Roberts.

It is here that he passed away in April 1981. He is buried in the (new) St. Matthew’s Anglican Cemetery there.

Here is a clipping from the Guardian newspaper dated 1940-11-09 listing men from the area serving in the Mercantile Marine.

Mercantile Marine
Bertram Mercer, Sutherland
Snow, Stanley Morgan, Eugene
Mercer, William C. Cave.