

Raymond Lloyd French

Royal Newfoundland Regiment Regimental No. 1071 Royal Artillery 166th Heavy Service # 971968 World War II

Born: 19 Jan 1924

Died: 05 Oct 1995

Place of Birth: Frenches Cove, Bay Roberts, Conception Bay, Newfoundland

Parents: Robert George and Winnifred (nee

Roach) French

Raymond was the youngest of three (3) boys born to Robert and Winnifred French of Bay Roberts. They also had a girl, Mary, born in 1920.

The 1935 Newfoundland general census has the French family living in part of Bay Roberts, locally known as Frenches Cove. Parents: Robert and Winnie are 47 and 37, respectively. Children listed are as follows: Arthur George 16, William Robert 12, and Raymond Lloyd 10. There is no mention of Mary.

By 1945, the time of the next census, the family has moved to Corner Brook, Raymond is now 22 years old.

In late 1942, Raymond enlisted in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment and served in the Regiment from 26 Nov 1942 to 09 Jul 1943. He then enlisted in the Royal Artillery and became part of the 166th Heavy Royal (Newfoundland) Artillery Regiment.

Out of service, Raymond returned home to Corner Brook and married Ruby Mildred Stone, born in Henley Harbour, Labrador but living in Curling.

It is quite interesting to note that four (4) members of the French family served in World War II. Three brothers; Raymond, Arthur, and William, served with the Royal Newfoundland Regiment while Dad, Robert served as a member of the NOFU, the Newfoundland Overseas Forestry Unit. Quite a legacy of service.

Before his passing in 1985, Ray served as president of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 32 at his hometown of Bay Roberts.

Ray passed away while at Gaspe Bay, Quebec in October 1985. He was just sixtyone (61). He is buried in the United Church Cemetery at Corner Brook, Newfoundland.