

*No Picture  
Available*



**Azariah Mercer  
World War I  
Royal Naval Reserve  
Service No. 1598X  
Newfoundland Overseas Forestry Unit  
Service No. 8265**

Azariah was born in Bay Roberts to parents Eli and Susannah on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1896.

He enlisted in the Royal Naval Reserve on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 1915, as a seaman for a one-year period.

Azariah's service record covers time from 25<sup>th</sup> January 1915 to 27<sup>th</sup> February 1916. During the year of service, Azariah was posted as follows:

- I. HMS Calypso (25 Jan 1915 – 4 Feb 1915)
- II. HMS Excellent (5 Feb 1915 – 17 April 1915)
- III. Ceto (City of Glasgow, Scotland, 18 Apr 1915 – 26 Jan 1916)

- IV. HMS Pembroke (27 Jan 1916 – 10 Feb 1916)
- V. HMS Briton (11 Feb. 1916 – 27 Feb 1916)

He was discharged on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 1916, having completed his engagement period.

While serving in England, Azariah met a young lady by the name of Emily Trotman. They fell in love and were married on the 5<sup>th</sup> of August 1915 at Ramsgate, England.

Upon completion of the one-year engagement on the Royal Naval Reserve, he had signed on for, Azariah returned home and brought his bride with him. The date was late February 1916.

Azariah was not finished with his volunteering in the war effort, since on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July 1917, he enlisted in the Newfoundland Overseas Forestry Unit and was accepted. He was now issued another service number of 8263 for this new enlistment.

He was shipped overseas to Scotland to work in the lumber camp there. He was almost 23 by now. This particular venture as part of the war effort ended on April 18, 1918, when he was returned to Newfoundland and discharged as being medically unfit.

In 1922 Azariah and Emily moved to Brooklyn, New York, USA, where he secured work on the barges in New York's Hudson River. He would eventually Captain these vessels for a number of years. Life was good, then the unthinkable happened. An accident claimed his life at the age of 54.

# Azariah Mercer, Barge Captain

Azariah Mercer, 54, a barge captain, of 418 49th St., will be buried tomorrow in Evergreens Cemetery. Following services at 11 a. m. at the grave. He was drowned last Nov. 8, when he fell off a barge anchored off Tompkins Cove on the Hudson River during a storm. His body was recently recovered.

Mr. Mercer, who was born in Bay Robert, Newfoundland, had been a resident of Brooklyn since 1922. He served with the British Navy in World War I and in the recent war went to England as a member of the Canadian, Veterans' Guard, serving in London. At his death he was employed by the New York Trap Hook Corporation.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Emily Mercer, and three sons, Harry, Maitland and Samuel, all of whom were in the armed service in the recent war.

---