



### **BERTRAM PORTER**

2477X

Served with the Newfoundland Royal Naval Reserve

Bertram's parents were Israel and Diana Porter. They had nine children. Some died at a young age. Bertram's siblings – May (Miriam), Ellen, Virtue, Sam-died at the age of 19 from TB (as did so many others at that time), Solomon (Taylor)

Bertram died quietly at home surrounded by family February 1982.

Bertram married Fannie Batten. They had three daughters, Belinda, Phoebe and Jessie.

<http://ngb.chebucto.org/C1935/35-blow-me-down-pdg.shtml>

Bertram Porter was a fisherman all his life. Bertram fished with his brother Taylor. They went out on the water over 40 years together to Kelly's Island to get wood in the boat.

Bertram smoked a pipe all his life.

He worked in Argentina with other men from the community. They went from Blow Me Down and Port de Grave by taxi (Walter Dawe) on Sunday nights and returned the following Friday. You had to be a veteran to get a job on the US base in Argentina.

He always wore his overalls. Dar loved his bib overalls.

Dar dearly loved a game of cards. He would go to Douggie Dawe's. He would do without his supper to play cards! They would play for a chair, half a chair or even a sheep's head. They played for 5 cents a game. His daughter, Belinda, can still remember Dar getting his 5 cents from the egg cup on the shelf by the cupboard in the kitchen. Belinda and Jessie have followed in Bertram's footsteps and both relish a game of crib or 120!

Bertram was awfully good with the gun which was always located in the corner of the kitchen. He often went shooting birds, turrs, baccalieu and bull birds. There would be hundreds in a scud of snow. The men went crazy when they saw this, says oldest daughter Belinda. They would hang the birds on the side of the house until they froze to preserve them.

Just about every other house had a store or a “shop” attached to it at that time. Dar would go to Uncle Tom’s store down the road for a plug of tobacco for his pipe. That would last him for a week. If you couldn’t light the tobacco, you would chew it.

Dar’s shoes were always shiny. Nobody could beat him! He wanted his shoes shiny and hated to see anyone with mud on their shoes. Belinda thinks maybe this came from his Navy experience. At the time, it cost 15 cents to get your shoes cleaned and polished in Bay Roberts.

Dar never went to church, but Mother never missed, and the children always went along.

Dar was a very tidy painter. He could wear his Sunday clothes while painting and not get a drop on him! He loved to paint.

In his older years Dar could be found in Blow Me Down sitting on the rock cliff with the other older men chatting, smoking their pipes, and looking out on the water (ocean) and probably reminiscing. They could tell how much fish someone got by how deep the boat was in the water.

Legion 

Lest We Forget - Volume 15



“At the going down of the sun,



**PORTER, Bertram**  
**2477X**  
Served with the Newfoundland Royal Naval Reserve.

1918; Discharged, St John's, medically unfit,  
April 10, 1918.