



Darren Sheppard

Darren Sheppard was born on February 26th in 1963 in Corner Brook to Madonna and Roy Sheppard.

Darren lived in a small town called York Harbour in the Bay of Island with his three brothers. In 1980 he graduated grade 11 from St. James All Grade School in Lark Harbour as an honors student. During the summer of 1980 he was processed for enrolment in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) and was officially enrolled on Sep 11 1980. He completed boot camp in Cornwallis NS from Sep to Dec of 1980 and then was sent to CFB Kingston to Canadian Forces School of Communications and

Electronics (CFSCE) to be trained as an electronic technician. He remained at CFSCE until Feb 0f 1982 completing the Performance Orientated Electronics Training and his Trade qualification level three as a Teletype and Cipher Technician. In Feb 1982 he was posted to CFB Greenwood to the Teletype workshop and spent the next five and a half years working on communications equipment for the CP 140 Aurora anti-submarine aircraft. In 1984 he was promoted to the Rank of Corporal. In July 1987 he was posted to CFB Lahr, West Germany to the Communications Sqn. During his posting to Lahr, in Dec, 1988 he was promoted to Master Corporal. Unfortunately this promotion and subsequent training in the Automated Defence Data Network resulted in a shortened posting to Europe and he returned to CFB Kingston, CFSCE to teach the Nova 1200 microcomputer. After two years at CFSCE, in Jul 1991, he was posted to 727 Comm Sqn, a lodger unit of CFS St. John's as 2IC of the Teletype shop. In Jul 1994 he was posted to CFB Gagetown with 724 Comm Sqn first as Teletype shop supervisor and upon promotion to Sergeant in Jul 1996 he was appointed supervisor of the Computer Help centre. It was during this posting that he was reassigned to the Trade

of Strategic Information Systems Technician as part of the Signals Branch trade restructuring. In Sep 1998 he was posted to CFS St. John's as the Telecommunications Information System Warrant Officer. During his posting in St. John's the Signals Branch restructured their trades again and he was reassigned into the Land Communications Information Systems technician trade and promoted to Warrant Office in 1999. He remained in CFS St. John's until Jul 2005 and where he was promoted to Master Warrant Office in 2004. In 2005 he was posted to Land Force Central Area (Toronto) as the Foreman of Signals. As foreman of Signals he was responsible for all communications equipment and technicians for the Area. In Jul 2007 he was posted Gander as the detachment commander for Canadian Forces Station Leitrim Detachment Gander. This is one of the very few positions in the CAF where a Non Commissioned Member is given the powers of Detachment Commander. On Jul 2009 he retired from the CAF and joined the CAF Reserves as a member of 728 Comm Sqn in St. Johns. During his 12 years as a Reservist, he was an integral figure in the organization and standup of 37 Sig Regt which was the amalgamation of 722 Comm Sqn in Saint John, NB and 728 Com Sqn in St. John's

with its HG in St. John's. Also during this time frame he was instrumental in providing both Data and Radio communications support as part of OP Lama, the CAF response to the province of NL during Hurricane IGOR. During his tenure with 37 Sig Regt he was promoted to Chief Warrant Officer in 2015 and appointed the Regimental Sergeant Major of the unit. In Dec 2019 he was commissioned to the rank of Captain and assumed many other roles within the unit, including Unit Administration Officer and Unit Operations Officer. On Mar 31 2021 he retired from the CAF after 41 years and 201 days service to his country and her Majesty the Queen.

After his retirement, he continued to work as a driver examiner in Harbour Grace, which means that he helps people do their road tests before they can get their driver's license and then was appointed Manager Traffic Safety Programs for Digital Government and Service NL, Motor Registration Division.

Darren Sheppard married Claudine Andrews of Port De Grave in 2002, and together they raised three children.