



**Eric R. Wood
(1921-1977)**

Eric was the youngest of four sons born to A. H. (Andy) Wood and Edith (ne French) of Coley's Point. The family lived on Smith Street in Bay Roberts. His mother was killed in an automobile accident in 1926. Eric was trained in the family tradition and business of blacksmiths becoming a tinsmith by trade. Growing up he was a member of the Church Lads Brigade (CLB) and developed an interest in motorcycles.

He joined the Newfoundland Regiment in 1942 and shipped overseas to train in Scotland with the **166th (Newfoundland) Royal Artillery**, before sailing to North Africa in 1943. He was a gunner responsible for the care of the regiment's 25-pound field guns. It was in Italy from 1944-45 where he and his comrades saw action in the 166th's battles on the Sangro River, Ortona and Monte Cassino. The regiment returned home in 1945.

Upon returning home Eric first worked at the American Air Force base in Goose Bay, Labrador as a plumber. In his spare time he enjoyed outdoor pursuits such as hunting and fishing. He then returned to Bay Roberts and went to work with the Canadian National Railways (CNR) during the 1950's. In between he had met Winnifred (Winnie) McTeer from Montreal and they were married in July, 1951. They were to have three children—Fred, Philip and Florence. Eventually Eric went into business with his brother, Bill, and that was to develop into **Eric R. Wood Plumbing and Heating** which he operated until his death.

In addition to a busy family and business life, Eric continued his love of community and the outdoors. He was Bay Roberts' Fire Chief (1947) and remained an important member of the Volunteer Fire Brigade throughout his life. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge and of course a devoted member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 32. Winnie joined the Legion Auxiliary and the Home and School Association. They both loved a parade and attending the dances.

He always loved the outdoors. In the 1960's the family purchased a cabin in Ocean Pond, their treasured retreat. A special delight was boating and fishing "up the pond" with his children or great occasions and meals with family and friends on a beautiful sunny day. There were moose-hunting trips in the fall and walks out on the barrens with his favourite dog, Rusty.

Eric passed away on February 14, 1977 at the too young age of 55 due to complications of a kidney infection. He is still fondly remembered after all these years.

by: **Sons Fred & Philip Wood**

018741

DISCHARGE CERTIFICATE.

ARMY FORM B 1083.

(If this Certificate is lost no duplicate can be obtained.)

Army Number 971798

SURNAME WOOD.

CHRISTIAN NAMES Eric.

Effective Date of Discharge 17th October 1945

Corps from which Discharged Royal Artillery.

Total Service: Years Two Days 321

Rank on Discharge Gunner. (P/Al/Bdr)

Cause of Discharge Class 'A' Release (Para XXIX 1940)

Discharge Overseas

Campaigns AND SERVICE ABOARD:-

N. Africa 12-8-43 To 22-8-45.

Medals

Military Conduct: Very Good

Signature and Rank
Officer i/c Records.

RECORD OFFICER.

Date

R.A. RECORD OFFICE

FIELD FORCE

R.A. RECORDS (FIELD)

19 SEP 1945

FOOTS CRAY, SIDCUP,

KENT.