

No Picture Available



Geoffrey Paul Dawson

Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF)

Born: 1935

Died: 22 Sep 1962

Place of Birth: Bay Roberts, Conception Bay, Newfoundland

Parents: Geoffrey and Johanna (nee Hanlon) Dawson

The 1935 Newfoundland general census lists the Dawson family as living in Bay Roberts with the following entries: Geoffrey is 51, wife Johanna 34, George 13, Walter 10, Bridget 9, Mary 7, Gerald 4 and Geoffrey just 1. Geoffrey is working as a labourer.

The next census in 1945 has the following information: Geoffrey is 61, Johanna 42, George 23, Walter 21, Bridget 18, Mary 16, Gerald 14, Geoffrey 11 and newest addition, Michael is 6.

The following newspaper clipping from The Evening Telegram dated 13 January 1955 is part of the official published Obituary for Geoffrey

Dawson Sr. In this excerpt, it mentions three of Geoffrey's sons, Walter, Gerald, and Geoffrey Jr. who are all serving with the RCAF or RCN: Walter in England with the RCAF, Gerald in Halifax with the RCN and Geoffrey at Torbay serving with the RCAF.

The excerpt also notes the two daughter who are the wives of US Servicemen, Bridget in Japan and Mary in Lewiston, USA.

Geoffrey Dawson

BAY ROBERTS — Passed peacefully away at his home Dec. 31 in his 77th year, Geoffrey Dawson.

Left to mourn are his wife, Joan; five sons, George, Bay Roberts; Walter, with the RCAF, England; Gerald with the RCN, Halifax; Geoffrey, with the RCAF, Torbay and Frank, St. John's; also two daughters, Bridget, Japan and Mary, in the U. S. and 23 grandchildren.

Geoffrey Dawson was born at Bay Roberts March 3, 1894 the son of the late George Dawson and former Bridget Ryan and the last of a family of nine children.

In his early years he was employed in Western Canada as a dynamite foreman in the construction of railways. Later he was dynamite foreman on the construction of the Huron Canal and from there with the Department of Highways. In his last years, up to the time of retirement, he was employed as mail carrier with the postal department.

Requiem Mass was celebrated at the Roman Catholic Church Jan. 2, Rev. Father J. Hogan officiated. Interment took place in the Roman Catholic cemetery.

Geoffrey Jr. was accidentally shot and killed while moose hunting as noted in the newspaper clip dated 24 September 1962. Geoffrey was just 27 years old at the time of the accidental shooting.

He is buried at the (old) Roman Catholic Cemetery at Bay Roberts.

Geoffrey Dawson, Jr. son of Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Dawson arrived home this week from Manitoba. Geoffrey joined the R.C.A.F. in June last and is now on furlough until February. Another son, Walter left on Jan. 4 for St. Jean, Quebec. Walter is a veteran of World War II, having already had three years service with the R.C.A.F. we wish them every success in their chosen careers.

Dies In Shooting Accident

Geoffrey Paul Dawson, 28, of Bay Roberts on Conception Bay, was fatally injured in an accidental shooting while hunting in the central part of the province Saturday.

Dawson, hunting moose with a brother and two companions, is reported to have been reloading when he stepped into the line of fire.

Hunter killed

GANDER (Staff) - Jeffrey Paul Dawson, 28, of Bay Roberts C.B., was accidentally killed at 8.30 A.M. Saturday while on a moose hunting trip.

Dawson, in company with his brother Frank and two friends Joseph Gough and Clarence Woodford, was hunting in the south west Gander river area. The accident happened when a moose was sighted and Dawson (apparently in the excitement) stumbled in front of Woodford's discharging gun and was instantly killed.

The RCMP at Gander were notified and rushed to the scene. The body was brought to Gander and later taken to Bay Roberts.

Jeffrey was unmarried and leaves to mourn his mother and several brothers and sisters.

Accident Victim Laid To Rest

BAY ROBERTS — Funeral services for Saturday's fatal shooting accident victim Geoffrey Paul Dawson, age 28 years, were held Sunday, September 24, at Holy Redeemer Roman Catholic Church, and was very well attended by relatives and friends from this and surrounding towns. Jeffrey was the son of Mrs. [Name] and the late Geoffrey [Name] of this town, was known to all as "Junior", had a friendly and manly disposition and was liked by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

He was hunting moose in the central part of our country with his brother and two companions when he stepped in the line

of fire when reloading his gun and was fatally injured. Leaving to mourn their sad loss beside his mother who is presently visiting at Lewiston, Maine, are four brothers, George at Bay Roberts, Gerald residing in Halifax; Walter residing in England, Frank, residing in St. John's; two sisters, Bridget, Mrs. H. F. Pender, residing in Japan; Mary, Mrs. James Moores, Lewiston, Maine, to all whom the sympathy of the whole town is expressed.

Interment was in the family plot at the R.C. Cemetery. Rev. Fr. Hogan, P.P., officiated.