



Harold Roy Batten

Royal Canadian Air Force

Born: 10 Apr 1928

Died: 16 Jun 2021 (age 93)

Place of Birth: Twillingate, Newfoundland

Parents: Kenneth and Olive (nee Evans) Batten

The 1921 Newfoundland general census shows Kenneth 24 and Olive 21, living in Lamaline West. They are newly married and there are no children at this time.

Harold “Roy” was the third child born to Kenneth and Olive. Harold was the youngest of the three and the only boy. There was Helen, Margaret, and Harold, all born at Twillingate where Kenneth was manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia. The 1935 census lists the Batten family as: Kenneth 39, Olive 35, Helen 11, Margaret 8, and Harold Roy 7.

A move from Twillingate to Coley’s Point, Bay Roberts sometime in the late 1930’s or early 1940’s finds Kenneth now 50 and surprisingly working as a fisherman. Son, Harold Roy is 17 and at home.

Roy found work at the local poultry egg farm (Keefe’s) at Coley’s Pont.

Then in 1947, Roy, still living at home in Newfoundland is accepted into the Newfoundland Ranger Force.

Here is a link to the Rangers website
[Newfoundland Ranger Force - Remembering the Newfoundland Rangers](#)

“The **Newfoundland Ranger Force** was the police force of the Dominion of Newfoundland. It provided law enforcement and other government services to out ports for 15 years. It existed from 1935 to 1949, at which point it was merged into the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). 204 men served as Rangers during its existence, though at any given time the force did not exceed 72 members.”

The newspaper clip below is dated 07 May 1947 from the Bay Roberts Guardian.

Roy Batten, son of Mr. and Mrs. K. M. Batten, Coley's Point, has been accepted as a member of the Nfld. Ranger Force, and left this week to report for duty.

He enlisted in the Rangers on 07 May 1947, was assigned to the Kilbride Headquarters and then was discharged in August the same year. His time in the Rangers lasted just four (4) months.

Roy enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force after World War II had ended, probably the late 40's. He became a Flying Officer navigational instructor at the Air Navigational School in Winnipeg, Manitoba

Roy worked for some time as a poultry framer. Since the Keefe's had a hennery at Coley's Point, it is here that he met his future wife, Elsa. In March 1952, he married Elsa Rose Keefe of Coley's Point. Elsa had just graduated from nursing school the year prior.

Together they would have a family of three (3) boys, Garrett, Darrell, and Kevin and make their home in Edmonton Alberta. The Batten's were married for 59 years.

After leaving the RCAF, Roy worked in the insurance industry for more than 30 years, while Elsa worked as a nurse for about 35. She would retire from her position as Asst. Administrator of the Misericordia Hospital in Edmonton in 1985.

Elsa died in 2011, while Roy passed away in June 2021 at the age of ninety-three (93)

BATTEN, Harold Roy Obituary

Roy passed away peacefully at age 93 on June 16, 2021, at the Kipnes Centre for Veterans in Edmonton.

Roy is survived by sons Garrett (Lenea), Darrell (Patricia), Kevin (Elaine); six grandchildren Elizabeth (Travis), Margaret (Ryan), David, Evan, Jason (Cassy), Aidan and three great-grandchildren Sara, Evelyn, and Arthur.

Roy was predeceased by his wife Elsa, his parents Kenneth, and Olive Batten of Newfoundland, and his two sisters Ruth Gosse and Margaret Thurlow.

Roy worked in insurance for over thirty years and was also known for his volunteerism with the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues, Boysdale Camp, Edmonton Self Starters Association, and West End Seniors Activity Centre. Until his health declined, he enjoyed the outdoors, playing Bridge, helping his sons with various projects and spending time with family.

A private family gathering celebrating Roy's life will be held later in July.