



**Pte. Lyle Mercer**

**Royal Newfoundland Regiment**

**Service # 4866**

**World War I**

**Born:** 19 Jul 1900

**Place of Birth:** Mercer's Cove, Bay Roberts, Newfoundland

**Parents:** Thomas and Annie Mercer

In 1918 Lyle was almost seventeen and couldn't wait to enlist in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment. Through documents of that time, Lyle was described as being 5 ft. 8 ½' in height, weighing 148 lbs, a fisherman by trade and a Methodist by faith. He signed up on the 1<sup>st</sup>. of May 1918, just a month prior to turning 18.

He would serve a total of 247 days. He did not go overseas and served in the home defense in Newfoundland for his entire period in the military.

Lyle's service record shows the following:

1. 01 – 05 – 1918: Enlisted
2. 16 – 07 – 1918: Special duty, home defense, Cape Ray
3. 10 – 11 – 1918: Returned to H.Q (St. John's)
4. 03 – 05 – 1918: Discharged, discharge certificate No. 37

**Note:** It seems that Lyle was being considered for discharge as being medically unfit for service but the general demobilization occurred at the same.

Following his discharge from service, Lyle appears in the 1921 Newfoundland General Census at age 22. He is living at home in Bay Roberts with his widowed mother, Annie and two brothers, William and Albert.

By 1935, Lyle is working and living in Corner Brook with his wife Eva. They have three (3) children, Lyle T (12), Doris (10) and baby William (1). It seems that Lyle and Eva must have spent some time in the United States since their oldest, Lyle was born there.

The census of 1945 shows a distinct change as Lyle (44), still living in Corner Brook, is now married to Gladys (32), a lady from Green Bay. The family unit consists of Lyle, Gladys and three (3) children from his previous marriage.

Lyle died in 1968 and is buried in the Mount Patricia Cemetery, Corner Brook, Newfoundland.