



Pauline Morgan

Canadian Women's Army Corps

CWAC

World War II

Born: 01 Aug 1925

Died: 21 Jul 2011

Place of Birth: Salmon Cove, South River, Conception Bay, Newfoundland

Parents: Wilfred and Violet (nee Snow) Morgan

The 1935 Newfoundland general census has the Morgan family living in South River, Newfoundland. Wilfred, "Truckman" by occupation is 45, Violet 39, Clarice 16, Pauline 10, Jean 7, Ida 5, and Emiline Morgan (Wilfred's mother) is 81.

The subsequent census of 1945 lists Wilfred at 55, wife, Violet at 46, Pauline is 20, Jean 17 and Ida at 15. Mildred Newhook of Trinity Bay is living with them as a boarder.

Pauline enlisted in the Canadian Women's Army Corps or CWAC as it was known.

"During the Second World War, Canadian women, for the first time, were mobilized for service in the Canadian Armed Forces. Of the roughly 50,000 women who enlisted, about half served in the Canadian Women's Army Corps (CWAC). Most were assigned jobs involving traditional female work such as cooking, laundry, and clerical duties, but women also pioneered roles in the mechanized and technical fields. The CWAC performed essential services, both at home and overseas, that helped bring about Allied victory. Today, women are fully integrated into the Canadian armed forces. As of December 2024, more than 14 per cent of Canadian Army personnel were women."

Facts about the CWAC:

1. *Founded on 13 August 1941; integrated into the Canadian Army on 13 March 1942*
2. *Disbanded on 30 September 1946*
3. *21,624 women served in the CWAC*



Since there is no documentation available to the public for World War II personnel, it is assumed that Pauline enlisted in the CWAC in August 1943. This is based solely on the picture clipping on page 3 from The Observer's Weekly dated 24 August 1943.

Here is a newspaper clipping from 12 February 1944, that mentions Pte. Pauline Morgan, as well as her older sister, Clarice, Leading Air Woman (LAW) who was serving in the RCAF at the time.

From The Evening Telegram 12 February 1944

Pte. Pauline Morgan, C.W.A.C., arrived in St. John's recently to spend furlough with relatives and has since returned to duty with the C.W.A.C. in Canada. She is at present attached to the Post Office at Headquarters. Prior to her enlistment she was on the nursing staff of the Mental Hospital, Killbride. Her sister, LAW Clarice, is at present attached to the R.C.A.F. Post Office at Headquarters in Trenton, Ontario. They are the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Morgan of South River, Clarke's Beach, Conception Bay. Pte. Morgan is stationed at No. 2 Kennedy Barracks, South street, Halifax, N.S., and avails of this opportunity to thank one and all for the hospitality extended during her short leave.

Pauline married Albert Lavigne of Montreal, Quebec. They had three (3) children, Linda, Vaughn, and Glenn.

OBITUARY

Pauline Lavigne

August 1, 1925 – July 21, 2011

LaVIGNE, Pauline It is with great sadness that the family announces the passing of Pauline, on Thursday, July 21, 2011, at the Hamilton General Hospital. She is predeceased by her husband Al (2001). Pauline will be lovingly remembered by her children, Linda, Vaughn (Marilyn) and

Glenn (Peggy) and her grandchildren Josh, Daniel, Michael, Derek, Alyssa, Vanessa and Preston. She is survived by her sister Jean Ireland and will be greatly missed by her beloved dog Chewy. Pauline was an avid fan and spectator of all sports and enjoyed spending the winter months at her home in Florida. Cremation has taken place. A family service will be held at a later date. In Pauline's memory, donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated by the family. Arrangements entrusted to The Marlatt Funeral Home 905-528-6303.

From The Observer's Weekly
24 August 1943



(Canadian Army Photo)

Sixteen Newfoundland girls, newly outfitted with Canadian Women's Army Corps uniforms, left Halifax Aug. 11 for Kitchener, Ont., for a month's basic training. The girls are members of the first group of 47 to arrive in Halifax from Newfoundland. In the group are, left to right:

Front row—Privates Lillian Thorne, Thorne, Trinity Bay; Ivy Bragg, Port aux Basques; Marie Dwyer, Placentia Junction; Agnes Rideout, Port Union, Trinity Bay; Bessie Ayres, Fortune, Burin District; Olive Osmond, Carbonear.

Second row—Mary Anne Edwards, Brigus; Tracie Knee, Valleyfield, Bonavista Bay; Pauline Morgan, Clarke's Beach; Julia Thoms, Boyd's Cove; Althea Collis, Rencontre; Ruth Homer, Carbonear.

Back row—Vera Ward, Portugal Cove South; Rose Cullen, Torbay; Ellen Hogan, Northern Bay; Madge Somerton, Portugal Cove West; Pearl Gouling, Gambo, Bonavista Bay; Emma A Parsons, Freshwater, Bell Island.