



Robert Charles Hussey
Royal Air Force (RAF) &
Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF)
Service No. 162504
World War II

Born: 03 Mar 1923

Died: 27 Feb 2007

Parents: Thomas and Ellen (nee Pike) Hussey

Place of Birth: St. John's, Newfoundland

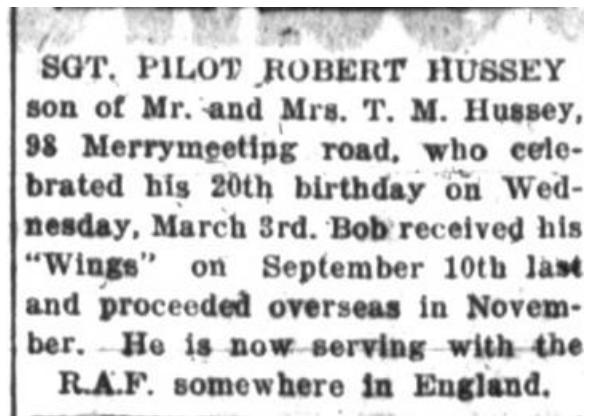
Born to Parents, Thomas and Ellen, Robert had two siblings Dorothy, three years older and Margaret, a year younger than him.

Listings found in the Newfoundland General Census provides the following records:

1. 1921: the family consists of Thomas 29, Ellen 26, and Dorothy 1. They are living on Merry Meeting Road in the district of St. John's East. Thomas is an accountant in the Pensions Department of government.

2. The 1935 census gives the information that the family has grown to include Thomas 12 and Margaret 1. Father, Thomas is now 43 years old and working as an inspector for the civil service. Ellen is 34.
3. By 1945, the family have moved and are now living in South River, Conception Bay. Thomas at 53 is an accountant with Natural Resources Department of the Newfoundland Government. Ellen is 49. Robert is the only child at home at the age of 23. A written notation gives Robert's occupation as Flying Officer RAF (Royal Air Force.)

Robert appears in the London Gazette Supplement dated 04 January 1944, having been appointed to commission as flight Sgt. Pilot effective 06 Nov 1943.



Since World War II personnel records are not yet available to the public, the use of other information sources provides some details surrounding Robert's service in the RAF.

Below are various newspaper clippings presented in chronological order to help provide a timeline of events for this veteran and his wife, who also was a veteran.

*From The Observer's
Weekly*

29 December 1942

Airman Has Enjoyable Leave

**Finds Newfoundland Friends
In England**

Sergeant Robert Hussey, of the Royal Air Force, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M. Hussey, of Merrymeeting Road, who graduated from the R.C.A.F. in Canada, reached England on the 7th of last month, writes home in most cheerful terms of the contacts which he is making in the "Old Country."

Robert's father was a Staff-Sergt. in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment and a Gallipoli Veteran. While in training at Edinburgh and Hawick, many friends were made, and the circle increased as Tom was later attached to the Pay and Record Office, in 58 Victoria Street. Hence, when the young airman went overseas, the road was paved with links of the past. "Bob" lost no time in getting into places where the Newfoundlanders are still remembered with affection. In one house, in a London suburb, he saw a picture of three soldiers of "Ours"—it was a memory of 1917. In "Blighty" he met true British hospitality—all points of interest—historical and local—were thrown open to the Colonial representative, and it is extremely probable that Christmas will be spent in a typical English home where all the traditions are honoured, and where the peace of Yuletide is observed as sincerely as it was previous to the outbreak of the present conflict.

Happy landings, Robert!

*From The Evening
Telegram*
04 March 1944

PILOT OFFICER HUSSEY, R.A.F.

Yesterday, March 3rd, Pilot Officer Robert Hussey, son of Staff-Sergt. Thomas M. and Mrs. Hussey, of Merrymeeting Road, City, celebrated his twenty-first birthday.

He received his wings at Camp Borden in September, 1942, went overseas in November of the same year, and, after a special course, qualified as Pilot of a Spitfire and has been on operational duty since May 1943. In one of his flights over France during last summer, he and his chum were attacked by several enemy planes. They fought their way through and Bob managed to shoot down his first plane—a Messerschmitt 110, and to use his own words: "I managed to get back to my base in one piece, but my poor old Spitfire was riddled with bullets." In the late Autumn of last year he was promoted to Flight Sergeant, and received his commission as Pilot Officer in November, 1943.

*From The Evening
Telegram
05 August 1944*

NEWFOUNDLAND FLYING OFFICER BRINGS DOWN ROBOT

Robert Hussey, Son of War Veteran. Gets His Target

Pilot Officer Robert Hussey, of the Royal Air Force, son of Staff Sergeant Thomas M. and Mrs. Hussey, of Merrymeeting road, City, has been promoted to Flying Officer, according to a private cable received in the city last week.

F/O Hussey was in southern England when Hitler attacked with his blind flying bombs. Intermittently during one week-end the robots came over the house-tops, causing casualties and damage.

One wrecked a little church, where 150 people were attending morning service, and killed some of the congregation. A convent and hospital were other targets.

Bob brought down one of these robots, and they are, and will be for some short time, his particular objective.

Writing home recently, he mentions an American soldier who was working among the wreckage, and who, grimed from his labours said: "Now we know something of what you folks went through during the big blitz. I'll say you guys know how to take it." He further adds: "The Germans may have hoped that their robot raiders will spread panic and lower morale. I have seen no sign of it wherever I went, and we still keep track of any of these flying bombs."

*From The
Observer's Weekly
08 August 1944*

A Veteran's Son Brings Down Flying Bomb

Robert Hussey, son of Staff-Sergt. Thos M. H. and Mrs. Hussey, of Merrymeeting Road, City, joined up in the Air Force, and quickly won promotion. Some time ago he was Commissioned as Pilot Officer, and private advices say that he is now a Flying Officer.

F/O Hussey is responsible for bringing down one of the mechanical bombers which troubled England a short time ago, and has helped, with his Squadron, to interfere with Hitler's famous "secret" weapon.

*From The
Observer's Weekly
13 February 1945*

**Flying Officer
Robert Hussey, R.A.F.**

Out of the original Squadron in the Air Force with which he was associated, Flying Officer Robert Hussey is the only one to come through. "Bob," who has had two years in operational Headquarters, with all its attendant strains, especially during the robot Bombing, has had marvellous luck, but is now back in the United Kingdom for six months rest. It is not unlikely that he will be granted home leave.

Flying Officer Robert C. Hussey, who will be twenty-two years old on the 3rd of next month, is the son of Staff Sergt. Thomas M. and Mrs. Hussey of 98, Merrymeeting Road, City. His father served in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment and is a veteran of the Gallipoli campaign, being attached afterwards to the Pay and Record Office of 58 Victoria Street, London, S.W., the scene of many reunions of the Servicemen of today. Staff-Sergt. Hussey, who has been a patient in the Merchant Navy Hospital for some time, as the re-action of these far off days of 1914-1918, is now convalescing, and will probably resume his old duties in connection with the Forestry Unit at the Department of Natural Resources.

Robert married Joyce Alice Hall in April 1945 at Tonbridge, Kent, United Kingdom.

*From The
Observer's Weekly
03 July 1945*

**Nfld. Air Officer
Marries W.A.A.F.
F/O Hussey—Hall**

Miss Joyce Hall, W.A.A.F., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Hall of 79 Barden Road, Ton-

bridge, was married at the Parish Church on April 7th to Flying Officer Robert Charles Hussey, son of Mr. and Mrs T. M. Hussey, of St. John's, Newfoundland.

The ceremony was conducted by Rev. W. H. Parsons, and the best man was Flying Officer Douglas Bennett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Bennett, of St. John's, Nfld.

The bride was given away by her father, and wore a turquoise blue dress, with wine accessories and a spray of wine-coloured orchids. She was attended by her sister, Mrs. C. A. Brown, who was Matron of Honour who wore a figured white and navy blue dress with hat to match, and a spray of white gardenias. She wore pearl ear rings which were the present of the groom.

The bride's mother attended the ceremony in a figured wine dress and navy blue coat and hat.

During the service the hymns "Lead us, Heavenly Father" and "Love Divine," were played and Mrs. Janes sang "Jerusalem."

A reception was held at the Carlton Cafe, and Flying Officer and Mrs. Hussey left to spend their honeymoon at Torquay, Devon, the bride travelling in a sage green suit with nigger brown accessories.

Joyce was a member of the W.A.A.F or the Women's Auxiliary Air Force. *"The Women's Auxiliary Air Force (WAAF), whose members were referred to as WAFs, was the female auxiliary of*

the British Royal Air Force during the Second World War. Established in 1939, WAAF numbers exceeded 181,000 at its peak strength in 1943.”



Following the war, the couple made their home in Ontario, and it was in London, Ontario that Robert passed in February 2007. Joyce followed in July 2025 at the age of 103. They are buried at Woodland Cemetery, London, Ontario.