

**Robert James Parsons**

**Newfoundland Overseas Forestry Unit & Home  
Guard**

**Service No. 3252**

**World War II**

**Born:** 25 Feb 1910

**Died:** 28 Feb 1974

**Place of Birth:** Shearstown, Bay Roberts,  
conception Bay, Newfoundland

**Parents:** George and Della (nee Hedderson)  
Parsons

Robert was the first child born to George and Della Parsons of Shearstown. The 1921 Newfoundland general census list the Parsons family as follows: George is 40, wife Della 30, Robert James is 11, George 10, Sarah 8, Thomas 6, and Mary 2.

The 1935 census for Shearstown lists George at 52, Della at 48, Robert 24 and working as a labourer, George is 23, Thomas 21 and Mary 16.

It is about this time that Robert went to Grand Falls to work, probably in the lumber woods cutting logs for the paper mill at Grand Falls. This move to the area explains why his enlistment gives Bishop Falls as his residence and why he enlisted in the NOFU or Newfoundland Overseas Forestry Unit.

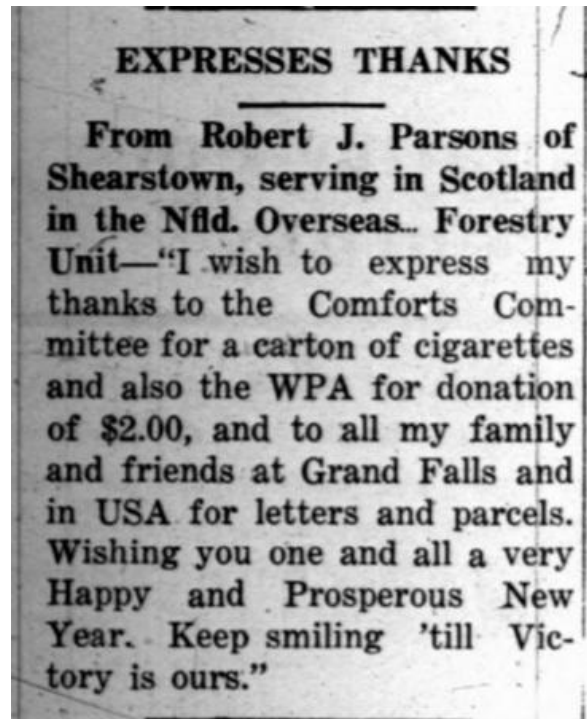
Robert went overseas with the NOFU in 1940 and returned when his contract ended (normally 6 months to a year).

In 1946, Robert left Newfoundland for Toronto where he worked in the construction industry until 1971. Following his retirement, he returned to Newfoundland in July 1971.

Robert died just three years later in February 1974 at the age of 63 and is buried at St. Marks Anglican Church Cemetery Shearstown. The stained glass window above the altar at the church is in his and his fathers' memory.

Below are clippings from the local weekly newspaper – The Guardian:

**06 February 1943**



**19 February 1944**

