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**Walter Ross Winsor**

**Royal Naval Reserve Newfoundland**

**Service No. C/195280**

**World War II**

**Born:** 09 June 1919

**Died:** 08 May 2009

**Place of Birth:** Triton, Twillingate,  
Newfoundland

**Parents:** Abraham and Rosalee (nee Cole)  
Winsor

Walter's father, Abraham, died in 1920, leaving wife Rosalee a widow with two small children, William and Walter.

At the time of the 1921 Newfoundland general census, Rosalee, age 32, is remarried, this time to George Newman age 33. For both it is their second marriage and both have children that now become part of a blended family. It is interesting to see that

Rosalee is listed in this census as a servant, yet Walter is listed as George's adopted son. An oversight or error on the part of the enumerator is most likely here.

The 1935 census for Triton shows George 47 and Rosalee 46. The children listed are Henry 21, William 18, Alfreda 11, Lily 10, Pearce 8 and Ethly 6. There is no mention of Walter, since he is found in that same census living in Shearstown, Bay Roberts, Conception Bay with an older sister, Alice and her husband, William Hedderson.

Walter (or Ross, as he has come to be called) is sixteen and is listed as brother-in-law.

William Hedderson died in 1942 and Alice, now a widow has remarried.

The next census of 1945 shows Alice married to James Mercer of Shearstown. James is 55 years old and works as a general labourer at the Argentinia United States Naval Base. Walter is 26 and "just out of the Navy., "according to the enumeration entry.

Walter was married twice. His first wife was Rosie (nee Button) who died in 1967 at the age of forty-seven (47).

Now living in Ontario, Walter married Erma Kipfer of Saskatchewan. She passed away at age 77 in 2002.

Since World War II service records are currently unavailable to the general public, the best that can be stated definitively about Walter's service is that he enlisted in early 1940 and served until release in 1945. This is supported by the fact that he was a member of the 6<sup>th</sup> Newfoundland Naval Contingent that departed Newfoundland for Britian on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 1940. A copy of the actual 1945 census enumeration page for Shearstown, Newfoundland notes that

Walter is "just out of the Navy." These two facts give substantial credence to the assumption that Walter served in the Newfoundland Naval Reserve and thus the British Royal Navy for a period of five (5) years. Additionally, his service record C/195280 tells that his home base was at Chatham, England as denoted by the "C" in his service number.

Walter died in May 2009 in Scarborough, Ontario, he was 90 years old. He is buried at Pine Hill Cemetery, Scarborough. His obituary is provided below as found in the Toronto Star at [www.thestar.com](http://www.thestar.com).

### **Walter Winsor Obituary**

*WINSOR, Walter Ross - (D.O.B. June 9, 1919, Triton Nfld., W.W.II Veteran-British Navy) Peacefully at Extendicare Guildwood, Scarborough on Friday, May 8, 2009. Ross was predeceased by his first wife Rosie in 1967 and by his second wife Erma in 2002. Dear father of Hilda and her husband Barry, Garry and his wife Diana, Linda and her husband Ed, David and his wife Tina. Loving grandfather to Brent and Nadia Hayward, Brad and Blair Nesbitt, Mark, Robert and Alex Winsor, Christopher Winsor, and Alison and Todd Barnes. Great-grandfather to Brayden Barnes. Survived by his brother William Winsor of Mt. Albert, Ont., half brother Perce Newman of Triton, Nfld., half sister Ethel Lenfield of London, Ont. A service to commemorate Ross's life will be held at the PINE HILLS VISITATION, CHAPEL AND RECEPTION CENTRE, 625 Birchmount Rd., Scarborough (at St. Clair Ave. East, 416-267-8229). Visitation Tuesday, May 12 from 7-9 p.m. Service and interment on Wednesday, May 13 at 11 a.m. Reception to follow at Pine Hills. Our family would like to thank all the*

*staff of Extendicare Guildwood for the exceptional care they provided to our father.*

Below are some clippings from The Bay Roberts Guardian referring to Walter.

27 April 1940

**Naval Recruits  
Leave Here**

By last Saturday's train two young men from Bay Roberts and two from Shearstown, left here for St. John's to proceed overseas with the next naval contingent. They were George Mercer, Bay Roberts West, John Harris Mercer, Bay Roberts East, Ross Winsor and James Earle, Shearstown.

26 April 1941

### **RECEPTION FOR SHEARSTOWN NAVAL LADS**

The N. P. A., Shearstown Branch, are holding a Reception in the Orange Hall there on Tuesday night, April 29, beginning at 8 p.m., and will be in honour of Seamen James Earle, Ross Winsor and Harvey Earle, of His Majesty's Navy, who are home on leave for a few days. there will be several speakers for the occasion. Teas will be served for 15c. Admission: 10c. An invitation is extended for all who possibly can, to attend. "There'll always be an England."

28 February 1942

### TAKING GUNNERY COURSE—

In a letter to his sister, Mrs. Wm. Hedderson, Shearstown, A. B. Walter Ross Winsor, of H.M. Navy wishes to be remembered to all his friends. He is at present taking a gunnery course in England. He also wishes to thank the W.P.A. for 10 shillings, and Mrs. Lewis Dawe for a carton of cigarettes, received for Christmas.

28 September 1946

Messrs. W. Ross Winsor, Robt. J. Parsons, Roy Mercer and John Sparkes left by Thursday's express for Toronto, Canada, where they will seek employment.

27 April 1946

### RECEPTION AT SHEARSTOWN

The W. P. A. are holding a reception in the L.O.A. Hall at SShearstown on May 1, in honor of the following:

Mr. and Mrs. John Mercer, Mr. and Mrs. Max Mercer, Mr. and Mrs. Ches Sparkes, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Badcock, James Earle, Ross Winsor, Peter Franey, Richard Parsons and Jas. Mercer.

A cordial invitation is extended to any other serviceman who may arrive home in the meantime, or whose name may have been omitted.