



**William Cecil Doucet Richards**  
**Royal Naval Reserve (Newfoundland)**  
**Royal Navy**  
**Service No. 231286**  
**World War II**

**Born:** 10 Feb 1921

**Died:** 1972

**Place of Birth:** Bareneed, Conception Bay, Newfoundland

**Parents:** John E. and Lizzie Wilmot (Bartlett) Richards

According to the 1921 Newfoundland general census, William was born to Lizzie (25) and John Edwin (25). At the time they were living with John's parents, William, and Elizabeth at Bareneed, Newfoundland. William named after his grandfather is just a few months old at the time the census was taken.

1935 finds John Edwin a widower at age 39, his wife, Lizzie having passed in 1933. He is working as a teacher and as a single parent has four (4) children to raise. William (Cecil) 14, Edwin 13, Shirley 11 and Daisy 7.

William enlisted in the Royal Naval Reserve of Newfoundland in early 1940, as he was one of the 177 men of the 4<sup>th</sup> Naval Contingent that embarked St. John's on board the HMS Nova Scotia, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1940, destined for Liverpool, England



**Nova Scotia**  
**British Troop transport**

1945 finds William giving his residence as the Merchant Navy Hospital, St. John's West. The actual 1945 Newfoundland census shows two of William's sisters, Shirley 21 and Daisy 17 are living with their grandmother Elizabeth 75, in Bareneed. There is no mention of his father, John, although he did not pass away until 1957.

William who never married passed away in 1972 and is buried in St. Mark's Anglican Cemetery at Bareneed, Newfoundland.



W. CECIL D. RICHARDS, A/S



J. EDWIN RICHARDS

who are now serving in H.M. Navy. Cecil went overseas in the 4th draft and saw service at Dunkirk and is now in the supply service on one of the largest battleships. Edwin crossed in the 14th draft and is somewhere in the Mediterranean. He has been recommended by his Captain for a Commission. Both will have birthdays in February. Their father, J. E. Richards saw service in the last war in Gallipoli and France.

Clipping from The Evening Telegram dated 03 August 1940:



CECIL RICHARDS

son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Richards;

Bareneed, who left with the fourth

Naval draft.