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William Clarence Mercer
Royal Canadian Air Force
RCAF World War II

Born: 18 Nov 1906

Died: 18 Apr 1991

Place of Birth: Coley's Point, Bay Roberts,
Conception Bay, Newfoundland

Parents: Edmund and Lorriane Taylor (nee Belbin)
Mercer

William was the eldest child of seven born to parents Edmund and Lorriane Mercer. The 1921 Newfoundland general census contains the following entries: Edmund age 41, wife Lorraine 35, children, William (Willis) 14, Warren 10, Marion 8, Raymond 5 and Edmund less than a year old. Chesley would come along in 1929.

The subsequent general census of 1935 shows Edmund at 55 and Louise at 49. There are six children at home with them: William 29 (single), Marion, Raymond, Gerald, Edmund and Chesley

William was in his early-mid thirties when he enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force. He quickly earned his way to Flight Lieutenant and was even named to the position of Senior Protestant Chaplain, being an ordained minister.

From Bay Roberts Guardian - 01 Dec 1945

Flight Lieutenant W. C. Mercer, Senior Protestant Chaplain, RCAF Station at Rockcliffe, Ottawa, arrived here via Torbay airport on Saturday last on a visit to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Mercer. Flt.-Lieut Mercer was commissioned in March 1941 and has served at the following RCAF stations: No. 12 Equipment Depot, Montreal; No. 8 A.O.S., Quebec City; No. 4 A.G.T.S., Valleyfield, Quebec; No. 2 S.F.T.S., Uplands, Ont., and now at Rockcliffe Station, Ottawa. He returned to Ottawa on Friday, and will be returning to civilian life in December.

William married a lady by the name of Lillian Vivian MacDonald. The couple did not have any children.

William was quite a student, over the years earning the following university degrees: a BA (Bachelor of Arts), BD (Bachelor of Divinity) and STM (Master of Sacred Theology)

Lillian passed away in October 1974, while William died at age 84 in April of 1991. They are buried in York Cemetery, Toronto, Ontario