



William John Dawe

Royal Newfoundland Regiment

Service No. 5401

World War I

Born: 17 October 1893

Place of Birth: Dock, Port de Grave,
Newfoundland

Parents: Abram and Selina Dawe

William's enlistment documents give a glimpse of the soldier at the time he signed up. The answers to enlistment questions provide the following about him:

- He was 24 years old
- A fisherman by occupation
- A Methodist
- 5' 6 1/4" tall
- He had black hair & grey eyes
- Weighed 137 lbs.
- Enlisted on 22 May 1918
- He could read & write
- He was single

His official service record contains these entries:

1. 22 – 09 – 18: Embarked St. John's by train to Halifax, N.S.
2. 24 – 06 – 19: To Nfld for demobilization
3. 01 – 09 – 19: Arrived Newfoundland
4. 04 – 08 – 19: Demobilized at St. John's

William spent fourteen (14) months overseas, most all of which was in England.

Interestingly, like most soldiers of the time, William made provision or allotment for money to be deducted from his pay and sent home. This money was normally earmarked to one parent or the other, however, William made allotment for 60 cents per diem to be deducted and sent to his sister Ethel.

Upon demobilization, all personnel underwent a medical examination before being discharged. In this case (like in so many others), there is a notation by the attending physician that William "*complained of no disability*", in other words, he was quite healthy.

Following his release from service, William disappears and is not found in any governmental documentation researched in Newfoundland, Canada or the United States. The sole entry found come in the 1921 Newfoundland census in the community of Cupids, Newfoundland with the sole entry of his mother Selina (59), a widow and living with her 28 year old son Walter.

William died in 1976 at the age of 83. He and wife Susannah are buried in the United Church Cemetery at Cupids, Newfoundland.