



**William John Marshall**  
**World War I**  
**Royal Newfoundland Regiment**  
**Regimental No. 2608**

William was born in Bay Roberts on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 1900 to parents William and Mary Marshall.

William enlisted in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment in April 1916. On his enlistment papers, he gave the following about himself; he was a student, a Methodist, a fisherman and 18 years old. Not all the information provided was quite accurate, as he lied about his age being only 16 ½ and not 18. In reality he was too young to enlist.

His service record which began on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 1916, and ended upon discharge on August 29, 1918, lasted a total of 2 years and 126 days.

The official service record for Pte Marshall shows a young man who left home on the

S.S. Sicilian for the UK in July 1916 and joined the BEF (British Expeditionary Force) in the field in October 1916. He was wounded in action on the 14<sup>th</sup> of April 1917 in France. His wounds were extensive, the area affected was the left eye, left knee and right shoulder. He was first hospitalized at Etaples and then transferred to King George Hospital, London for medical treatment and a lengthy period of recovery. Following convalescence, he was furloughed for a brief period and then attached to base depot on January 1<sup>st</sup>. 1918.

Williams' wounds were so extensive and debilitating that a medical review board recommended he be discharged as medically unfit for service. He was returned to Newfoundland and discharged on 29<sup>th</sup> of August 1919.

Following his release, it became difficult to ascertain his whereabouts, but he had moved to the other side of Canada becoming a resident of Prince Rupert, British Columbia. There he met Eva May Lear, a widow born in Victoria Harbour, Ontario. On November 7<sup>th</sup>, 1927, they were married.

William and Eva were married for 45 years until Williams passing in 1972. He is buried at the Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Burnaby, Greater Vancouver District, British Columbia.