



**William Parsons, D.S.M.
World War I
Royal Naval Reserve
Service No. 1749**

William was born in Mercer's Cove, Bay Roberts on 29th of October 1892 to George and Ellen Parsons.

William travelled to St. John's on 13th of April 1915 to enlist in the war effort. He was a little older than most recruits at the time, being 23 years old.

His enlistment document shows that he signed up for one year. Physically, William was 5' 11" tall, had brown hair and blue eyes. He was single at the time.

William's service record that was supposed to last one year but in fact lasted 4, spanning from 7 April 1915 to 18 March 1919 when he was demobilized from service.

William's service record has reproduced and is on the page below.

On 25 December 1918, William was awarded the D.S.M. or Distinguished Service Medal for gallantry.

Distinguished Service Medal (D.S.M.)

The D.S.M. was established on 14th October 1914. It was an award for bravery whilst on active service at sea and was for other ranks' Royal Navy personnel, members of the other Services and other Commonwealth countries who held rank up to and including Chief Petty Officer.

On the reverse there was an inscription "For Distinguished Service". Bars were awarded for subsequent actions and the date of the action during the First World War was given on the reverse of the bar. Recipients of the medal are entitled to use the letters D.S.M. after their name.



WW I ROYAL NAVY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

After discharge, William went home with the 1935 census showing his married to a lady named Maud. They didn't have children at this time.

William died in 1967 of a heart problem and is buried at Bay Roberts in the new St. Matthew's Anglican Cemetery.

Name
in full

William Parsons

1749 X

Date of Birth *29 October 1892*
Place of Birth *Bong Po-ho*
Occupation

18 Feb 19

Date and Period of U. S. Engagements	Age	Height Ft. in.	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	Wounds, Scars, Marks, etc.
<i>16 April 1915</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>5-11</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Blue</i>	<i>Fair</i>	

Ships, etc., served in.	List and No.	Rating	Sub-ratings			Badges	Period of Service		Character	If Discharged, Whither, and for what Cause.
			Rating	From	To		From	To		
<i>Calypso</i>	<i>147 219</i>	<i>Seaman</i>	<i>1st</i>	<i>18 July 1915</i>	<i>20 June 1916</i>	<i>17 Oct 1915</i>	<i>29 May 1915</i>			
<i>Vigilant</i>	<i>147 219</i>			<i>17 July 1915</i>	<i>31 July 1915</i>		<i>29 May 1915</i>			
<i>Excellant</i>	<i>147 203</i>			<i>12 July 1915</i>	<i>10 July 1915</i>		<i>18 July 1915</i>			
<i>Victory I</i>	<i>153 205</i>			<i>12 July 1915</i>	<i>10 July 1915</i>		<i>18 July 1915</i>			
<i>President III</i>	<i>153 205</i>			<i>12 July 1915</i>	<i>10 July 1915</i>		<i>18 July 1915</i>			
<i>Baiton</i>	<i>147 252</i>						<i>12 June 1917</i>	<i>11 June 1917</i>	<i>Remobilized</i> <i>Remobilized</i>	

Class for Conduct

Clothing and Bedding Gratification

REMARKS

Rated 1st Lt. 12/17/18 Awarded D.S.M. 620/225/18
Time served in 6 months
count for increase of pay, pension,
etc. while 1st Lt.
(1) War 3 yrs 6 mos

United War Gratuity No. 600

PAID WAR GRATUITY

Repts to Division