

Edgar Zephania Sexton

Rank: 2nd Lieutenant

Branch: Royal Naval Air Service

Years Served: 1917 - 1918

Summary: Sexton applied to the Royal Naval Air Service on September 8th, 1917. Unfortunately, he lost his life trying to help a fellow comrade who had crashed before. He had accidentally come into contact with his own plane's propeller and received a fatal blow. There is very little record of his service: just the application form and telegrams between Sexton and the recruitment team.

Name: Edgar Zephania Sexton

Birth Date: July 11, 1896

Relatives: Father - James H. Sexton. Mother - Helen Sexton

Address: Strathroy, ON

Application Date: September 8, 1917

Death Date: November 21, 1918

Burial Site: Strathroy Cemetery



Date	Particulars
8 Sept 1917	<p>Application Royal Naval Air Service – date of birth 11 July 1896, unmarried, teacher, Strathroy ON, graduate SDCI and Queens University Kingston</p> <p>Previous experience- “I have had three years previous driving Ford and McLaughlin automobiles”</p> <p>Includes letter to Chief Naval Recruiting Officer dated 9 Dec 1917 – <i>available on request.</i></p>
19 Dec 1917	<p>Telegram to E Z Sexton to report at Naval Recruiting Office 103 Bay St. Toronto for medical examination</p> <p>Nothing further in the file</p>

28 Nov 1918

Strathroy Age

Flight-Lieut. Edgar Z. Sexton Loses Life While Endeavoring to Help Fallen Comrade

**Was one of the best fliers at Camp Borden, and One of
Strathroy's Finest Young Men --- Promising Career Cut Short --
St. Andrew's Club Mourns Loss of Most Beloved and Exemplary
Member**

A great shock came to town and to the home of Mr. J. H. Sexton, principal of the Collegiate Institute, on Thursday evening last, when a telegram from Camp Borden told of the death of Flight-Lieutenant Edgar Z. Sexton, eldest son of the family. This was a case of the giving of a life in an attempt to assist a comrade instructor's cadet whose machine had crashed to the earth a few moments before. Being so intent on reaching the fallen boy, he inadvertently came into contact with the propeller of his own machine, and thus received the fatal blow.

By this occurrence there has passed on the brightest and most promising of our young men. From infancy his parents saw in him a child of more than ordinary promise and naturally, looked forward to a very bright future for him. His fine qualities were carefully watched over by his fond parents, and everything they were able to do was done by them in order that he might have a training which would make him a useful man in the world. In accordance with this idea his course in the Public School and Collegiate institute was of the best, and when he entered the university, two years ago, he continued to pursue the same high ideals. After he entered the army and joined the Royal Flying Corps, by his characteristic thoroughness and earnest devotion to duty, he stood, at the end of his training course in aviation, in a special class, and was chosen as instructor and sent to Camp Borden, where he finished his work.

Many things might be said of his life and character, but, perhaps, the most conspicuous were his fine manliness and the high ideal of life which he always kept vividly before him. As far as is possible for human wisdom to forecast, here was a young man that certainly would have made his mark in the world and humanity would have received a real uplift from his contributions, but there are always ways higher than our ways, and faith teaches us to believe that he has found his highest expression through this strange outlet.

The funeral took place on Sunday afternoon from the family residence, Front Street to Strathroy Cemetery, the Rev J. A. Shaver, B.A. B.D. conducting the service.

On Sabbath evening next, a memorial service, in St Andrew's Church will be held in his honour.

Regent Man Dec 8/17
Chief Naval Recruiting Officer
Ottawa Ont
Dear Sir,-

I wish to join the Royal Naval Air Service and I am enclosing herewith the necessary form of application filled out. I am also enclosing certificates as to my age, character and physical fitness and you will receive as soon as possible a certificate as to my general ability.

I wish to add that I was twenty-one years of age last July. I received my High School training in the Strathroy Collegiate Institute and last April completed my second year in Arts at Queen's University Kingston. I have always taken a prominent part in athletics in the aforementioned institutions and I think I could pass the tests necessary to become a cadet.

Would you kindly favour me with an early reply addressed to Strathroy but as I understand that if I am called up

~~For~~ military service in the meantime ~~he~~
will not be allowed to join the Naval Air
Corps.

I have had some experience with internal
combustion engines in connection with motor boats
and automobiles.

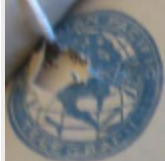
Yours very truly

Edgar Z. Sexton.

address

E. Z. Sexton

Strathway Oct.



CANADIAN PACIFIC R.Y. CO.'S TELEGRAPH TELEGRAM

FORM T. D. 2

CABLE CONNECTIONS TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD

J. McMILLAN, Manager Telegraphs, Montreal.

Sent No.	Sent By	Rec'd By	Time Sent	Time Filed	Check
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Send the following Message, subject to the terms printed on the back hereof which are hereby agreed to:

Ottawa. 19th Dec., 1917.

Mr. E.S. Sexton,
Strathroy, Ont.

Reference application Royal Naval Air Service you are to re
at Naval Recruiting Office 103 Bay St Toronto for medical exam
morning
ination Thursday twentieth instant you will be interviewed
there nine thirty a m Friday you should take references to
interview

CHIEF NAVAL

CHIEF NAVAL RECRUITING OFFICER



CANADIAN PACIFIC R.Y. CO.'S TELEGRAPH NIGHT LETTERGRAM

FORM T. D. 10

The Canadian Pacific R.Y. Co.'s Telegraph transmits and delivers this night lettergram subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back of this blank.

J. McMILLAN, Manager Telegraphs

0403N Y 50 NL NL

852

Strathroy ONT Dec 20 21 1917

Chief Naval Recruiting Officer

Ottawa ONT

Your message read no one today by father R E
Sexton is probably on the road from Manitoba from
which place he sent you application for admission to naval
flying corps he will report as soon as he knows
the contents of your message we expected home before this

R Sexton

BAH



CANADIAN PACIFIC R.Y. CO.'S TELEGRAPH
TELEGRAM

FORM T. D. 2

CABLE CONNECTIONS TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD

J. McMILLAN, Manager Telegraphs, Montreal

Sent No.	Sent By	Rec'd By	Time Sent	Time Filed	Check
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Send the following Message, subject to the terms printed on the back hereof which are hereby agreed to:

Ottawa, 21st December, 1917.

Mr. H. Sexton,
Strathroy, Ont.

Reply your nightletter no use son reporting for interview
after today another interview will be arranged in due course

~~REXXX~~NAVAL RECRUITING SECRETARY.

CHG NAVAL

5AM



CANADIAN PACIFIC R.Y. CO.'S TELEGRAPH
TELEGRAM

FORM T. D. 1

CABLE CONNECTIONS TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD

J. McMILLAN, Manager Telegraphs, Montreal

RECEIVED 47 NL

STRATHROY ONT JAN 1-18

NAVAL RECRUITING OFFICER

ROYAL NAVAL AIR CORPS

OTTAWA ONT

YOUR LETTER RE APPOINTMENT FOR MEDICAL EXAMINATION AT
OTTAWA TO ENTER ROYAL NAVAL AIR SERVICE JUST RECEIVED BY ME
I AM ONLY RETURNED HOME FROM THE WEST PLEASE WRITE ME
SOME DATE FOR SUCH EXAMINATION AND I SHALL
ATTEND TO SAME AT ONCE

J. B. SEXTON

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[illegible]