

# Leading Seaman William Cutting

## Royal Canadian Navy

### Family Life:

William Alpheus Cutting was born in Owen Sound on July 19, 1931, to John and Hilda (nee Koenig). He attended Hepworth Public and High Schools from 1937 to 1948.

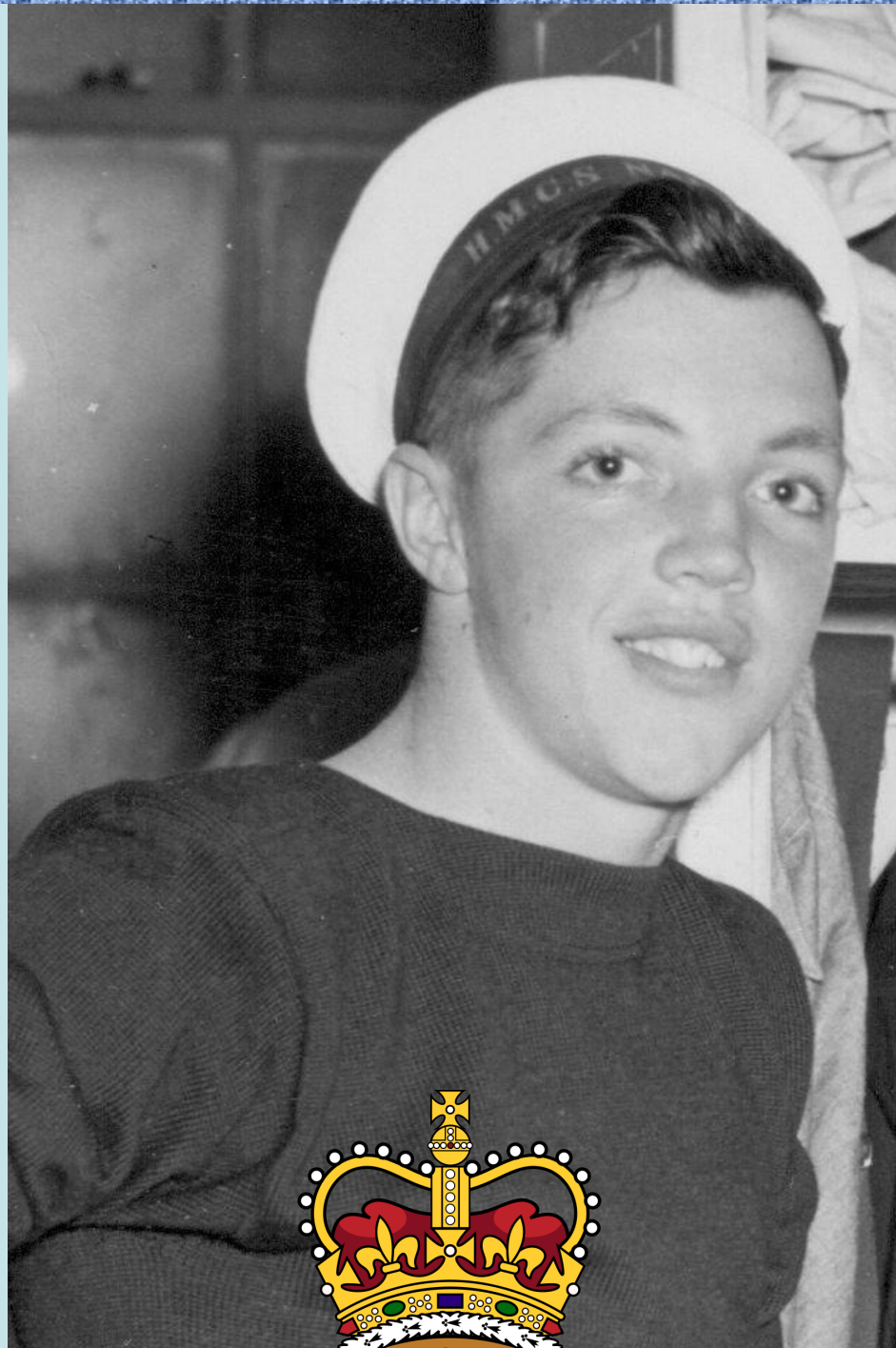
Bill married June Lowe in 1960 and the couple were blessed with three children, Judy, Richard and Cindy. He worked at a number of jobs including Stamp and Enamel Ware in Hespeler, the Hespeler Police Force and Canada Post. He was transferred to Owen Sound in 1983.

After 21 years with Canada Post, Bill retired in 1991 and continues to reside in Sauble Beach.

### Service History:

Leading Seaman Cutting enlisted for service in 1949, at His Majesty's Canadian Ship *York* of the Royal Canadian Navy in Toronto. He was sent west to Vancouver Island to complete his basic training aboard HMCS *Naden* and *Ontario*.

Leading Seaman Cutting was then stationed at HMCS



### Decorations:

- Canadian Korea Medal
- Canadian Volunteer Service Medal for Korea
- United Nations Service Medal (Korea)

**Service History continued:** *Stadacona* in Halifax where he qualified as a Radar Plotter and Operator.

His first posting was aboard the aircraft carrier HMCS *Magnificent* which embarked on a three month cruise to visit friendly European ports of call. Leading Seaman Cutting was transferred to the destroyer HMCS *Crescent* for one voyage overseas before being deployed on HMCS *Nootka* which headed for Korea in December of 1951.

The *Nootka* left Halifax and sailed through the Panama Canal making a stop in San Diego, California, where a fresh coat of paint was applied to her and on to Pearl Harbor for two weeks of training. HMCS *Nootka* patrolled the waters off the eastern coast of Korea firing at targets along the coastline such as railway supply lines.

After ten months of duty in Korea, the *Nootka* returned to Canada. Leading Seaman Cutting finished his service aboard HMCS *Portage* and was discharged in January of 1954.

**Interesting Stories:** Reflecting upon his service time, Bill said, "Everything was exciting to me. I just enjoyed everything. There were so many guys that were homesick. I couldn't understand that, but maybe they had girlfriends. I was always looking forward to what we would be doing the next day."

**Lessons Learned:** You learned discipline being in the navy. It made a man out of you. You learned to accept your responsibilities.