

## VIZENA, Muriel

Interviewed by Kirsten Norlock



What did you do before the war?

*"I was born in Ottawa in 1923. In 1942 I was 9<sup>th</sup> Victory Loan girl for Ottawa Car and Aircraft to meet actor Edward Arnold."*

What did you do during the war?

*"I joined the HMCS Cornwallis at Digby, Nova Scotia or you could say Navy. I went in as a laundry assistant."*

When did you join the navy?

*"In 1943."*

Did you go anywhere?

*"No. I was stationed on the training ship. The ship is what you called the base when you are in the Navy, when you are in the army it is called a base."*

How long were you in the Navy?

*"From 1943-1946."*

What were the living conditions like?

*"It was a good ship. You had food, stores, banks, your headquarters, even a dentist."*

What is your most vivid memory?

*"All the white caps and young officers on the ship."*

What did you do after the war?

*"I worked in employment insurance and married Neil Vizena."*

Did the war change you in any way?

*"Well I lost a brother at sea so there was a sadness."*

What do you think students need to know about Remembrance Day?

*"They need to remember all those who went overseas and didn't come back."*



Do you have anything else you'd like to share?

*"Well like I said before I lost my brother at sea. He had left in 1941 and died in 1942. He was on the Canadian Warship and went around saving soldiers and bringing them back. He was the only one lost on that ship. My other brother was stationed in Halifax, my Dad was in the First World War and I had 2 cousins in the air force. When you were in the navy there is a learning experience an discipline you learn and it sticks with you for lif. I wouldn't change my training for anything."*

