



William was born on January 4, 1921 in Caledonia, Queens County, Prince Edward Island to John Daniel and Jessie Matheson of New Glasgow Nova Scotia. William's parents were married on May 1, 1917. William married Mattie Viola Matheson on June 20, 1941 in River John, Nova Scotia. Their son John William Matheson was born in 1942. William had a brother and four sisters. His brother Harold Francis had died a month after his birth in 1932.

William reached "grade VIII" at the age of 14 and then left school because he was needed on the parental farm. He worked there until he was 17. He then worked for 1^{1/2} years as a logger and truck driver in the forestry industry. The Matheson family were members of the Presbyterian Church. William played hockey, baseball and other sports and occasionally read adventure fiction stories.

William served with the Pictou Highlanders of The Non-Permanent Active Militia of Canada from August 2, 1940. On December 10, 1940, he enlisted in the Canadian Army in Sydney, Nova Scotia. He then went overseas to the United Kingdom on September 1, 1943. William was shipped to the front in France on July 6, 1944. He returned to the UK for medical reasons. On March 9, 1945, William boarded again for the crossing to Northwest Europe. He was attached to the Canadian Provost Corps

William died on Tuesday September 4, 1945 from fatal injuries at the age of 24 as a result of an accident. He was a passenger in an army jeep that crashed into an oncoming vehicle in Gronau, Germany. He was then temporarily buried in Almelo before being reburied in Holten on February 4, 1946.

His grave was adopted after the war by Mrs. Klumpers-Slijkhuis from Markelo.

His medals were: 1939-45 Star; France Germany Star; Defense Medal; War Medal 1939-45; CVSM & Clasp.

His mother and widow were awarded The Memorial Cross on October 18, 1945.

