



## Town of Ajax Street Dedication



Street Name: **Reading Street**

Name of Veteran: William Reading 1907-Oct. 22, 1940

Rank: Signaller

Ship Served: HMS Ajax

Date of Service on Ship: 1939

Year of Visit/Dedication: n/a

Veteran or Family Visit: n/a

Veteran of the Battle of the River Plate: Yes Died at Battle: No

William served on HMS Ajax during the Battle of the River Plate but was transferred almost immediately after. He died while onboard the Canadian ship HMCS Margaree when it sunk off the coast of Ireland. The ship, formerly called the HMS Diana was transferred from the Royal Navy on September 6, 1940.

On October 22, 1940 HMCS Margaree was sunk in the North Atlantic while escorting convoy OL-8, after a collision with the freighter Port Fairy. One hundred and forty two of her crew were lost with the ship, William Reading being one of them. His name appears on the monument to the ship in Halifax. He was thirty three years old at the time.