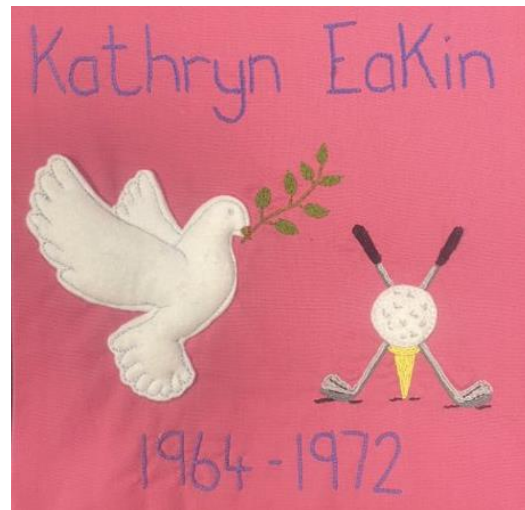


## Kathryn Eakin



### Civilian

**1964 - 31<sup>st</sup> July 1972**

Kathryn Eakin was one of two children to parents, Merle and Billy Eakin, Kathryn had an older brother called Mark whom she was very close to. The family owned the shop at the Crossroads in Claudy and that is where they lived on the Main Street in the town.

Kathryn was a bit of a tom boy, she loved animals and loved being on her bicycle. She would tag along with her brother Mark and his friends on fishing trips even though they didn't want her. Sometimes she'd go next door to a neighbour's house where a woman they called Granny Duffy lived and she'd spend hours helping her bake scones and pancakes. That was her idea of a great day.

In July 1972 Mark and Kathryn had got their school holidays, the family had a caravan in Castlerock, they went up there at the start of July but since their parents had the shop they couldn't stay up there during the week, they would only get a few days away at a time. Family friends also had a caravan on the site and they said Mark and Kathryn could stay with them initially only for a few days but they ended up staying the whole month of July and they had a ball.

On Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July it was time to go home and they headed back to Claudy and arrived back early on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July where they set about some chores in the shop, at around 10.15am Mark was brushing the yard and Kathryn was told to clean the windows of the shop. It was while she was doing this that the first bomb went off and threw her to the ground she was taken to hospital but died a short time after she arrived, there was nothing they could do for her.