

# Patrick "Paddy" Mayne: The Noted Irish Soldier, Rugby Player, and Author

Patrick "Paddy" Mayne was a legendary Irish soldier, rugby player, and author. He was born in Newcastle, County Wicklow, Ireland on December 21, 1915.



## Hopkins War - 4 - Paddy Mayne by Todd McFarlane

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Mayne joined the Irish Army in 1934 and served with distinction in World War II. He was awarded the Military Cross for gallantry in action.

After the war, Mayne played rugby for Ireland and the British Lions. He also wrote several books about his experiences in the war and in rugby.

Mayne died in Dublin, Ireland on January 14, 2005.

## Early Life and Military Career

Patrick Mayne was born on December 21, 1915, in Newcastle, County Wicklow, Ireland. He was the son of a farmer and attended school at St. Kevin's College in Dublin.

Mayne joined the Irish Army in 1934 and was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, Irish Guards. He served with the battalion in Palestine during the Arab revolt of 1936-1939.

At the outbreak of World War II, Mayne was promoted to captain and given command of a company in the 2nd Battalion, Irish Guards. He led his company with distinction in the Battle of France in 1940 and the subsequent evacuation from Dunkirk.

In 1941, Mayne was awarded the Military Cross for gallantry in action during the Battle of Crete. He was later promoted to major and given command of the 1st Battalion, Irish Guards.

Mayne led the 1st Battalion, Irish Guards, in the Allied invasion of Italy in 1943 and the subsequent fighting in Italy and Austria. He was wounded in action in 1944 but returned to duty in time to participate in the final Allied offensive in Italy in 1945.

## **Rugby Career**

After the war, Mayne returned to Ireland and resumed his rugby career. He played for Leinster and Ireland and was selected for the British Lions tour of New Zealand and Australia in 1950.

Mayne was a talented rugby player and was known for his aggressive style of play. He was a member of the Ireland team that won the Five Nations

Championship in 1948 and 1949.

## Writing Career

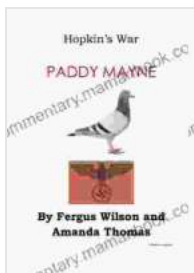
After retiring from rugby, Mayne began a successful writing career. He wrote several books about his experiences in the war and in rugby, including "From Soldier to Scrum-Half" (1955) and "Paddy Mayne: The Autobiography of a Soldier" (1994).

Mayne's books were well-received by critics and readers alike. He was praised for his honesty, humor, and insights into the human condition.

## Later Life and Legacy

Mayne retired from writing in the late 1990s and lived in Dublin until his death in 2005. He was 89 years old.

Mayne was a remarkable man who lived a full and adventurous life. He was a hero to many and an inspiration to all who knew him.



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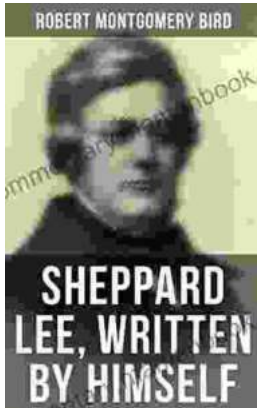
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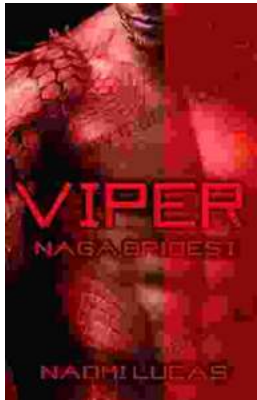
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