

Pierre Douville

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Pierre Douville



Pierre Douville, 1794

Born	August 7, 1745 St. Peter's, Saint John's Island Prince Edward Island
Died	July 17, 1794 (aged 49) Forton Prison, Gosport, England
Allegiance	The United States, France
Service/branch	Navy
Years of service	Continental Navy : 1775–1783 French Navy : 1793-1794
Rank	Lieutenant, Captain American Revolutionary War
Battles/wars	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spy mission, Rhode Island• Yorktown campaign (naval) French Revolution <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Glorious First of June
Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Medal for service after the War• Original Member of the Society of the Cincinnati

Spouse(s) Cynthia Aborn (m. 1778)

Children Pierre Jr., Cynthia, Lowrey Charles, Samuel Joseph, and Mary Douville

Pierre Douville (August 7, 1745 – July 17, 1794) was a French-Canadian naval Captain and Lieutenant who served in the [American Revolution](#) and [French Revolution](#).^[1] Born on present day [Prince Edward Island](#), Douville survived the 1758 [Acadian deportation](#) to France. He joined the [French Navy](#) and lived in [Rhode Island](#) during the American Revolution. During the American Revolution, he served as a French military intelligence officer who provided General [George Washington](#) with British ship and troop movements. Douville also took part in a smuggling mission in 1775, when he brought weapons and gunpowder from the [French West Indies](#) to the United States. Douville was one of the original members of the [Society of the Cincinnati](#). Douville died in 1794 fighting for the French during the [Glorious First of June](#).^[2]

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Early Life (1745–1758)

Pierre Douville was born on August 7, 1745, in the town of Havre-Saint-Pierre, otherwise known as St. Peter's, on the Island of St. John, which is present day [Prince Edward Island](#).^[3] He was the youngest son and the tenth child of François Douville and Mary Roger.^[3] François Douville was the first inhabitant of Havre-Saint-Pierre and came to the island in 1719.^[4] Originally from Normandy, France, François and Charles Carpentier were shipwrecked on the island in 1719, "farther to the east [from where Havre-Saint-Pierre would be settled], at Naufrage."^[5] In a 1752 census, François Douville was one of the wealthiest inhabitants on the island, who made his living as a "fisherman, navigator, and ploughman or farmer." ^[6]