

CARADOG ap GRUFFYDD ap RHYDDERCH (died 1081).

Name: Caradog ap Gruffydd ap Rhydderch
Date of death: 1081
Child: Owain ap Caradog
Parent: Gruffydd ap Rhydderch ap Iestyn
Gender: Male
Area of activity: Royalty and Society; Politics, Government and Political Movements; Military
Author: John Edward Lloyd

The grandson of Rhydderch ap Iestyn, powerful in South Wales until his death in 1033, and the son of [Gruffydd ap Rhydderch](#), the rival of [Gruffudd ap Llywelyn](#), by whom he was slain in 1055.

The home of the family would seem to have been Gwynllwg and Upper Gwent. It is in this quarter of Wales that Caradog makes his first appearance in 1065, when he swooped upon earl Harold's new hunting lodge at Portskewet, destroyed it and ravaged the neighbourhood, without apparently suffering any reprisals. He was of a bold and adventurous temper and, remembering the exploits of his grandfather and father, set himself to conquer the realm of Deheubarth. In 1072 he defeated and slew the reigning prince, [Maredudd ab Owain ab Edwin](#), in a battle on the Rhymney, and in 1078 slew his successor, [Rhys ab Owain](#). But a third and more formidable opponent appeared in [Rhys ap Tewdwr](#) in 1081. Thus the stage was set for the famous battle of Mynydd Carn fought somewhere in northern Dyfed, where [Rhys](#), fortified by the approval of [bishop Sulien](#) of S. Davids and with the help of [Gruffudd ap Cynan](#), inflicted a crushing defeat upon Caradog and his northern allies.

Caradog is no more heard of; he left a son, [Owain](#), on whom see the article [Morgan ap Hywel](#), who in course of time established himself in Gwynllwg and became the ancestor of the later Welsh lords of Caerleon.

Author

Sir John Edward Lloyd, (1861 - 1947)

Sources

J. E. Lloyd, *A History of Wales from the Earliest Times to the Edwardian Conquest* (London 1911), 372-3, 377, 384-5, 393

Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [Caradog ap Gruffydd](#)

Additional Links

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Published date: 1959

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