

TRAHAEARN ap CARADOG (died 1081), king of Gwynedd

Name: Trahaearn ap Caradog

Date of death: 1081

Child: Owain ap Trahaearn

Child: Griffri ap Trahaearn

Child: Meurig ap Trahaearn

Child: Llywarch ap Trahaearn

Parent: Caradog ap Gwyn ap Collwyn

Gender: Male

Occupation: king of Gwynedd

Area of activity: Politics, Government and Political Movements; Royalty and Society

Author: Thomas Jones Pierce

He is said to have been the son of one Caradog ap Gwyn ap Collwyn and a cousin of **Bleddyn ap Cynfyn**. By natural right ruler of Arwystli, his career between 1075 and 1081 is one of the foremost illustrations in Welsh history of how a bold and ambitious personality among the minor lords of Wales could usurp regal powers over an extensive area at moments when the fortunes of the major dynasties were at a low ebb. On **Bleddyn's** death in 1075, he seized authority in Gwynedd. Challenged by **Gruffudd ap Cynan**, the representative of the old Venedotian house, he was defeated at Dyffryn Glyngin in Meirionydd, but later in the year he retrieved himself at Bron yr Erw and drove **Gruffudd** into second exile in Ireland. In 1078 he invaded South Wales and killed its king (**Rhys ab Owain**) at Goodwick. The general threat to old established interests eventually brought **Gruffudd** and **Rhys ap Tewdwr** into alliance, and together they imposed a crushing defeat on their opponent at the well-known battle of Mynydd Carn, fought in 1081, and in which Trahaearn met his end. He left four sons - Meurig, Griffri, Llywarch, and Owain. His descendants ruled in Arwystli until it was absorbed into Powys by **Gwenwynwyn**. A grand-daughter, Gwladus, married **Owain Gwynedd**; her son was **Iorwerth Drwyndwn**, father of **Llywelyn the Great**.

Author

Professor Thomas Jones Pierce, (1905 - 1964)

Sources

J. E. Lloyd, *A History of Wales from the Earliest Times to the Edwardian Conquest*(London 1911), Vol. I

J. E. Lloyd, *A History of Wales from the Earliest Times to the Edwardian Conquest*(London 1911), Vol. II

Oxford Dictionary of National Biography

History of Gruffydd ap Cynan (1054–1137) (1910)

Further Reading

Wikipedia Article: [Trahaearn ap Caradog](#)

Additional Links

Wikidata: [Q591291](#)

Published date: 1959

Article Copyright: <http://rightsstatements.org/page/InC/1.0/>

LGC
NLW

LLYFRGEL
THE NATION



Ysgrifeddi gan
Llywodraeth Cymru
Copied by
Welsh Government