

## Bill Cunningham



It is with sadness that we have to tell you that Bill, a long-time supporter of the Association, in particular with his annual attendance at reunions for many years, died on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Bill was at Leuchars and Tengah with the squadron as a Line Corporal, joining in March 1967 and moving on to RAF Watton in December 1969. Bill devoted many years of his life to the RAF, serving for 37 in total and retiring as a Warrant Officer. He joined the 92<sup>nd</sup> Entry at Halton in May 1959 and in the long career that followed there was scarcely a part of the service he did not know. His first posting was to 101 Squadron at Waddington on Vulcans: then came 48 Squadron at Khormaksar on Twin Pioneers before returning to the UK and the Tigers. Post-74 he spent three years at Gutersloh with 92 Squadron and Lightning F.2s and 2As, worked on Vulcan majors at St Athan, Jaguar mods at Leconfield and Abingdon, moved to 20 Squadron at Bruggen on Jags, then the Tornado GR1 at Cottesmore and Honington. Next came helicopters and the Chinook with 18 Squadron at Gutersloh and Chinooks and Sea Kings at Mount Pleasant with 78 Squadron. From January to March 1991 he was in Saudi Arabia on Operation Granby, still with the Chinook, followed by Operation Warden and Operation Haven in Turkey. Bill returned to fixed wing ops with the ADV Tornados of 23 and 25 Squadrons at Leeming before the ground attack version once again at Bruggen (17 Squadron) and finally Cottesmore with the TTTE. Quite a roll call.

Bill loyally supported the Associations of many of his other squadrons as well as the Tigers.

Bill's funeral took place at Peterborough on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and some of his old Tengah colleagues attended to pay their last respects. We will all miss Bill's presence at Stratford and our thoughts are with his wife Carol and all his family who we hope to see again in 2017.

Bill was proud to be a Scot and that was reflected in the wreath that accompanied him on the day of his funeral.



RIP Bill.