

Bobby Laumans



Association member Robert 'Bobby' Laumans died on Monday April 21st aged 93. Having escaped to England at the outbreak of the Second World War he trained to fly Spitfires and joined the Tigers before being posted to the newly formed Belgian 350 Squadron. During his time with 350 Squadron he was shot down near Ostend but baled out at the last minute (having inverted his aircraft to free himself from the cockpit). He was picked up from the sea by the Germans and sent to Stalag Luft III where he was very involved with preparations for the Great Escape. After the war Bobby joined SABENA for which airline he flew for many years. He was a holder of the Belgian Croix de Guerre 1940 with the Palm and Bronze Lion and the Croix des Evades. We will remember him as a gentlemen with an impish sense of humour who was truly charming. He attended some of our early reunions until travelling from Belgium became difficult for him. He did attend our commemoration of Squadron Leader Mungo Park at Adinkerke in May 2006. He was very proud of his time as a Tiger and was laid to rest at Basse - Wavre on April 26th wearing his blazer with the squadron crest.

Photo: Bobby pictured in June 1945.