

WING COMMANDER MICHAEL KENNETH ALLPORT MBE (R54-62)

The following is taken from his obituary written by **Jon Ford (S58-62)** a contemporary and fellow RAF colleague :-

Wing Commander Mike Allport MBE, who emigrated to Australia in 2013, died peacefully on Tuesday 5th October 2021 in Sydney, after a courageous battle with cancer, aged 77. He was at Brandeston Hall and Framlingham College from 1954-1962 and was the House Captain of Rendlesham. He was a founder member of the RAF CCF Section commanded by John Maulden and as a cadet was awarded a Gliding Scholarship aged 16 and a Flying Scholarship a year later. He also succeeded in gaining an RAF 6th Form Scholarship which helped with the school fees and guaranteed him a place as a cadet at the RAF College Cranwell.

After 3 years at Cranwell he graduated in 1965 as a pilot. His first tour was as a Qualified Flying Instructor on Jet Provosts before starting a prolonged spell on Hercules Transport aircraft. This culminated in the award of an 'Exceptional' assessment of his ability as a Hercules pilot. After conversion to the Canberra he commanded the Meteorological Research Flight at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough using a specially adapted Hercules and a converted Canberra for high level research. He was awarded the prestigious L G Groves Meteorological Memorial Prize in 1983. After a short tour at HQ Support Command, he served as a loan service officer in the Central Military Command, United Arab Emirates, and was appointed a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in 1988, he received his award from Her Majesty the Queen. There followed a number of staff tours and a final posting in the Royal Air Force was as the Air Attaché in Abu Dhabi from 1995 to 1999.

Mike was then recruited to be the International Training Officer at the RAF College in the Royal Air Force Reserve where he worked with all departments at Cranwell to identify, develop and market spare capacity for international customers. He finally retired aged 70 whence he moved to Australia to be with his children. He was the adored husband of Bunny, beloved father of Lara and Manda, and much loved grandfather of 4 grandchildren. He is sorely missed by all who knew him.

