



CRANWELLIAN ASSOCIATION

Sir David Harcourt-Smith RIP



We are sad to announce that Air Chief Marshal Sir David Harcourt-Smith GBE KCB DFC of 56 Entry passed away on the 4th August 2024.

Educated at Felsted School, he was commissioned into the RAF in 1952. He flew the Venom during the Suez Crisis and Aden Emergency, where he won the DFC for gallantry and devotion to duty in 1957. He was the author of *Wings Over Suez*, an account of air operations during the Sinai and Suez wars.

Appointed OC 54 Sqn on Hunters at RAF West Raynham in 1963 and OC 6 Sqn on the Phantom F4 in 1969, he moved on to serve as Station Commander at RAF Bruggen in 1972 before being appointed Commandant of Royal Air Force College Cranwell in 1978.

In 1980 he was Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Operational Requirements), AOC-in-C RAF Support Command in 1984 and Controller of Aircraft in 1986. As Controller of Aircraft, he oversaw the introduction of the Tucano training aircraft.

Sir David retired in 1989.