



## CRANWELLIAN ASSOCIATION

### FRANK HILTON RIP



We regret to announce the passing of Frank Hilton of 91 Entry (C Sqn) on 18th July 2024. Frank was born in West Kilbride, and spent his early years in Ardrossan, north Ayrshire. He grew up in Lancashire until the family moved down to Kent, where he finished his education. He entered Cranwell in October 1964. Amongst other things, he represented the College in the cross country team, and he produced, directed and acted in *The Lark* (by Jean Anouilh), which was a major contribution to a week of French Culture. After further flying training, he joined 35 Sqn in Cyprus as a co-pilot on the Vulcan. He achieved his captaincy, but resigned his commission at the end of that tour. His final posting was at RAF Bentley Priory, where he had the privilege of working under Air Marshal Sir Ivor Broom. Frank's career then took him from university lecturer in Communication (Manchester University, Manchester Business School and Stockholm University), to self-employed business consultant, involved in professional development training in presentation skills, facing the media, crisis management, and international negotiation skills. Notably, he was the first independent consultant to run communication workshops at the World Economic Forum in Davos - supported by Pierre

Salinger, press secretary to Presidents Kennedy and Johnson. Although his time in the RAF was only one part of a varied career, it stayed with him and remained an influence throughout his life. One of his lecturers at Hull University remembered that as a mature student "with his unconventional background and life experience, and his good nature and good humour, he was an ideal link between staff and (often immature) students". To his many friends, Frank was the perfect gentleman – considerate, kind and modest