

## OBITUARY

### Ken Whitfield MBE 1932 - 2018



Ken Whitfield Joined the Royal Observer Corps in 1950 at the age of 18, and served in No.30 Group Durham on Sacriston Post until 1953 when he was called up for National Service in the RAF.



On completion of his National Service he returned to the ROC once more serving in Durham Group on Sacriston Post, which had since been re-numbered as No. 23 Group Durham following re-organisation.

He was promoted to Leading Observer and then Chief Observer while serving there. Subsequently he was promoted to Observer Officer as Group Officer, and later to Observer Lieutenant. In 1973 he passed a Senior Officers selection board and was appointed Group Commandant No.23 Group Durham in the rank of Observer Commander.

In recognition of his long and valued service Ken was awarded the MBE in 1977, and continued to serve as Commandant No. 23 Group until Stand Down in 1991.

Ken married his wife Audrey in 1955 and they have one son, Stewart, married to Christine and they have one daughter. His funeral took place at All Saints Church, Langley Park, Durham, on the 18th. January 2018.



*Ken is pictured here with some of his Group, enjoying a strawberry tea at Bentley Priory, following the formal inspection of the Corps by Her Majesty The Queen in July 1991.*

***May he Rest in Peace***