

## **Remembering Cpl Mick Condon 25.04.1934 – 28.11.2024**

I was 21 when I had my first contact with Mick in February 1969 at RAF West Raynham – my first posting from Catterick. He was one of the three crew corporals on the Section. Mick was quietly spoken, never swore (always said “blinkin” or “flippin”) and was firm but fair. We all called him Mick unless an officer came into the Section, and then we called him Corporal – that stopped everyone receiving a rollocking!

One of Mick’s passions was cleanliness – the wagons had to be kept shiny, and the Section had to be kept clean and tidy, crash gear had to be in good order, your shoes had to well-polished, and your battle dress had to have creases in trousers and sleeves. Mick was a non-smoker. At the end of a shift, Mick would hand the smokers brushes and dustpans to go around the Section – inside and out – picking up cigarette ends, pipe dottle and other smoking detritus, and if there was dissent, he would ask why non-smokers should clear up smokers’ mess. He was very sociable and at least once a week we would all meet up at a local pub off camp for a few beers, and he was also good at “turning a shilling”! He would buy a second-hand car and on none flying weekends Mick would ask for volunteers to tart the cars up, so we would all spend Saturday and Sunday in the Crash Bays valeting and making minor repairs to increase the sale value, and for this we would be paid in beer!

Mick liked to keep in touch with people and would always try and call on someone in the area he was passing through, and it was great for us to meet up every now and again. Both our families have always been close and shared special occasions together. Happy times!

RIP Mick.

Allan Brooke