

WARRANT OFFICER CLASS 2 SPENCER FAULKNER ARMY AIR CORPS

Warrant Officer 2 Spencer Faulkner, killed in the Lynx helicopter crash in Afghanistan, was born on 15 December 1975. He joined the Army as a Royal Engineer, Geographic Technician in September 1992. Selected for employment as aircrew in 2005, he completed his initial flying training prior to streaming on to the Lynx helicopter. He completed his conversion training at Middle Wallop in February 2007 and was subsequently officially re-mustered to the Army Air Corps as a pilot. An experienced aviator, Warrant Officer 2 Faulkner deployed to Afghanistan on numerous occasions, often at short notice, in support of UK Armed Forces.

A true Army Warrant Officer in bearing and professionalism, he was liked and highly respected by all who worked with him.

His Commanding Officer said of him:

"WO2 Spencer Faulkner has been a stalwart of the Squadron for many years, deploying to Afghanistan on numerous occasions, where he consistently displayed the guile, leadership and bravery so closely associated with his Squadron. The loss of a Warrant Officer of his calibre and commitment will leave a huge void in the close knit fabric of the Unit and our thoughts and condolences are very much with his family, of whom he was so proud".

The Commander for the deployed Lynx Detachment paid the following tribute:

"WO2 Spen Faulkner was a conscientious, loyal and dedicated soldier who was a privilege to command. An extremely experienced aviator he was the Air Mission Commander of his detachment and my first port of call if I wanted a straight answer, no matter how sensitive the subject. Well liked and respected by all who met him, his passing is a huge blow to the Aviation Detachment and his Squadron alike. I had the privilege of

flying with WO2 Faulkner numerous times at Royal Air Force Odiham and was always incredibly impressed with his professionalism and hands-on flying ability. Sharing a cockpit with him you would get insight into the true man; a loving husband and hugely dedicated father to his two children. I feel honoured to be able to call him a friend and my thoughts and prayers are with his wife and family at this difficult time".

His family said:

"Spen was a loving husband to Cally and devoted father to Natasha and Jack, and will be greatly missed. A huge gap has been left in our hearts forever. He has been tragically taken away whilst serving his Country, a job he loved. God rest his soul".