



When he finally called time on his playing career in 1963 he became a member of the committee and from the early 1980s until 1998, he was the club's chairman. His outstanding contribution was acknowledged in 1995 when he received the Bradford League's coveted award, the Sir Leonard Hutton Trophy for services to the league.

Bottomley's sporting ability wasn't limited to the cricket pitch. He would participate in many sports and at one point was also a fine footballer. This caught the attention of Arsenal Football club and he was even offered the chance to play for them under their legendary manager Herbert Chapman. However, close family members persuaded him instead to follow a career with a local carpet manufacturers. He also played golf for many years at Cleckheaton Golf Club and was also a member of the Old Brodleians Rugby Union Club.

Lightcliffe chairman Bruce Lunn said, "If you had the luxury of meeting George, you would automatically realise what an astonishing man he was. He had a larger than life personality, which rubbed off on everyone he met. He gave so much to the club as a player and as a supporter."

With the gala approaching soon, many people will miss the presence of George this summer. He would always contribute in some capacity. According to locals, George would never miss the gala as he loved nothing more than solid community spirit. Even up until two years ago, George was still helping organise the gala day which does so much to raise funds for the club.

Bottomley, who leaves a wife Jean and two sons Michael and Andrew, passed away in a nursing home at Hartshead Moor after a long illness.