

= Gordon Banks =

Gordon Banks , OBE (born 30 December 1937) is a former England international football goalkeeper . He made 628 appearances during a 15 @-@ year career in the Football League , and won 73 caps for his country . Regarded as one of the greatest goalkeepers of all time , the IFFHS named Banks the second best goalkeeper of the 20th century ? after Lev Yashin (1st) and ahead of Dino Zoff (3rd) . He was named FWA Footballer of the Year in 1972 , and was named FIFA Goalkeeper of the Year on six occasions .

He joined Chesterfield in March 1953 , and played for the youth team in the 1956 FA Youth Cup final . He made his first team debut in November 1958 , and was sold to Leicester City for £ 7 @,@ 000 in July 1959 . He played in four cup finals for the club , as they were beaten in the 1961 and 1963 FA Cup finals , before winning the League Cup in 1964 and finishing as finalists in 1965 . During this time he established himself as England 's number one goalkeeper , and played every game of the nation 's 1966 World Cup victory . Despite this success , he was dropped by Leicester and sold on to Stoke City for £ 50 @,@ 000 in April 1967 . He made one of the game 's great saves to prevent a Pelé goal in the 1970 World Cup , but was absent due to illness as England were beaten by West Germany at the quarter @-@ final stage .

He was Stoke 's goalkeeper in the 1972 League Cup win ? the club 's only major honour . He was still Stoke and England 's number one when a car crash in October 1972 cost him both the sight in one eye and his professional career . He did though play in the United States for the Fort Lauderdale Strikers in 1977 and 1978 . He briefly entered management with Telford United , but left the game after he was sacked in December 1980 .

= = Club career = =

= = = Chesterfield = = =

Banks was born in Sheffield , West Riding of Yorkshire , and brought up in the working class area of Tinsley . The family later moved to the village of Catcliffe after his father set up a (then illegal) betting shop . This brought greater prosperity but also misery , as one day Banks 's disabled brother was mugged for the shop 's daily takings , and died of his injuries some weeks later . He left school in December 1952 , and took up employment as a bagger with a local coal merchant , which helped to build up his upper body strength . He spent a season playing for amateur side Millspaugh F.C. after their regular goalkeeper failed to turn up for a match ; the club 's trainer spotted Banks amongst the spectators and invited him to play in goal as he was aware that Banks had previously played for Sheffield Schoolboys . His performances there earned him a game in the Yorkshire League for Rawmarsh Welfare , however a 12 ? 2 defeat to Stocksbridge Works on his debut was followed by a 3 ? 1 home defeat , and he was dropped by Rawmarsh and returned to Millspaugh . Still aged 15 , he then switched jobs to become a hod carrier .

He was scouted by Chesterfield whilst playing for Millspaugh , and offered a six @-@ game trial in the youth team in March 1953 . He impressed enough in these games to be offered a part @-@ time £ 3 a week contract by manager Teddy Davison in July 1953 . The reserve team were placed in the Central League on account of a powerful club director rather than on merit , and Banks conceded 122 goals in the 1954 ? 55 season as the " Spireites " finished in last place with only three victories . Banks was posted to Germany with the Royal Signals on national service , and won the Rhine Cup with his regimental team . He recovered from a fractured elbow to help the Chesterfield youth team to the 1956 final of the FA Youth Cup . There they were beaten 4 ? 3 on aggregate by Manchester United 's famous " Busby Babes " ? a team that included both Wilf McGuinness and Bobby Charlton .

Banks was given his first team debut by manager Doug Livingstone , at the expense of long @-@ serving Ron Powell , in a Third Division game against Colchester United at Saltergate in November 1958 . The game ended 2 ? 2 , and Banks kept his place against Norwich City in the following match

, and he missed only three games by the end of the 1958 ? 59 season due to injury . With no goalkeeping coaching to speak of , Banks had to learn from his mistakes on the pitch , and he soon developed into a modern vocal goalkeeper who ordered the players in front of him into a more effective defence . Having just 23 league and three cup appearances to his name , it came as a surprise to Banks when Matt Gillies , manager of First Division club Leicester City , bought him from Chesterfield for £ 7 @, @ 000 in July 1959 ; this also meant a wage increase to £ 15 a week .

= = = Leicester City = = =

Banks faced competition from five other goalkeepers , including 30 @-@ year @-@ old Scotland international John Anderson and 25 @-@ year @-@ old Dave MacLaren . He started the 1959 ? 60 season as the reserve team 's goalkeeper , in effect making him the club 's second choice ahead of four of his rivals but behind first team choice MacLaren . He had played four reserve team games when MacLaren picked up an injury and manager Matt Gillies selected Banks for his Leicester debut against Blackpool at Filbert Street on 9 September . The match finished 1 ? 1 , with Jackie Mudie 's strike cancelling out Ken Leek 's opener . Banks retained his place for the 2 ? 0 defeat against Newcastle United at St James ' Park three days later . With McLaren fit again , Banks was sent back to the reserves but , after the first team conceded 14 goals in the next five games , he was recalled and became the first @-@ choice goalkeeper for the remainder of the season . The defensive record did not improve at first , with Banks conceding six in a heavy defeat to Everton at Goodison Park , but he improved in each match and the " Foxes " settled for a comfortable 12th @-@ place finish . In training , he worked extensively on improving his weaknesses , such as coming for crosses . He put in extra hours during training and came up with practice sessions to improve his skills ? this was largely unique in an era where there were no specialized goalkeeping coaches . In the summer , both Anderson and MacLaren departed , leaving Banks as the club 's undisputed number one ahead of a group of understudies .

Leicester finished sixth in 1960 ? 61 , and managed to beat champions Tottenham Hotspur at White Hart Lane . Yet their greatest accomplishment was in reaching the final of the FA Cup , with Banks conceding only five goals in their nine games on route to the final and keeping three clean sheets in the semi @-@ final and two replays against Sheffield United . Goals from Jimmy Walsh and Ken Leek finally broke the deadlock in the second replay at St Andrew 's . Their opponents in the final at Wembley were Tottenham , who had already won the First Division title by an eight @-@ point margin . Right @-@ back Len Chalmers picked up a severe injury early in the match , and with Ken Leek dropped for disciplinary reasons in rookie Hughie McIlmoyle 's favour , City were effectively playing with ten men and offered little threat going forward . Bobby Smith and Terry Dyson gave " Spurs " a 2 ? 0 win and the first " double " of the 20th century , with Banks unable to prevent either goal .

The 1961 ? 62 season proved to be highly disappointing , as Leicester finished 14th in the league and exited the FA Cup at the hands of Stoke City . The only highlight was the club 's participation in the European Cup Winners ' Cup , which actually put Banks in the difficult position of choosing to play for his club against Spanish club Atlético Madrid or choosing to attend the England versus Portugal match as a non @-@ playing squad member . He elected to attend both games , leaving London at full @-@ time to reach Leicester 30 minutes before the kick @-@ off against Madrid . A last minute goal earned the Spaniards a 1 ? 1 draw at Filbert Street . In the return leg , Banks saved an Enrique Collar penalty , but Madrid were awarded a second penalty which Collar converted , and Leicester lost the game 2 ? 0 (losing the tie 3 ? 1 on aggregate) .

Banks broke his nose at Craven Cottage , on the opening day of the 1962 ? 63 season , in a 2 ? 1 defeat to Fulham . Leicester went to chase a possible double , reaching the FA Cup semi @-@ finals whilst lying top of the table in April . City beat Liverpool 1 ? 0 at Hillsborough to reach the final , with Banks keeping a clean sheet despite his goal being under a near @-@ constant siege from the Merseyside club . The News of the World reported that Liverpool had had 34 attempts on goal to Leicester 's one , and Banks later stated that it was his finest performance at club level . Yet Banks then broke a finger in a 2 ? 1 defeat to West Bromwich Albion at The Hawthorns , and was out

injured as Leicester lost their final three league games to end the season in a disappointing fourth place . In the 1963 FA Cup Final , Banks and the rest of the team underperformed , and lost the game 3 ? 1 to Manchester United .

City ended the 1963 ? 64 season in 11th place , having been inconsistent all season . Success instead came through the League Cup , as they beat West Ham United 6 ? 3 over two legs in the semi @-@ finals to reach the final against Stoke City . The opening tie at the Victoria Ground finished 1 ? 1 in extremely muddy conditions as Banks spilled a shot from Bill Asprey , with Keith Bebbington pouncing on the rebound . Back at Filbert Street , goals from Mike Stringfellow , Dave Gibson and Howard Riley won the game for Leicester 3 ? 2 and settled the tie at 4 ? 3 .

Banks started the 1964 ? 65 season on wages of £ 40 a week , and the club only agreed to pay £ 60 a week in December . These miserly wages made it difficult for the club to spend the £ 80 @,@ 000 it received for the sale of Frank McLintock ? he had put in a transfer request over dissatisfaction with his pay and quality replacements were reluctant to join a club that paid full internationals like Banks and McLintock no more than the base rate that rival clubs paid to average players . Leicester finished 18th in the league and were knocked out of the FA Cup by Liverpool at Anfield in the Sixth Round . In the League Cup , City struggled to get past Peterborough United (in a replay) , Grimsby Town and Crystal Palace (in a replay) , before they recorded an 8 ? 1 victory over Coventry City at Highfield Road . After easing past Plymouth Argyle in the semi @-@ finals , Banks found himself playing in another League Cup final . However Chelsea won the final after successfully defending their 3 ? 2 win at Stamford Bridge with a goalless draw at Filbert Street .

He missed the first nine games of the 1965 ? 66 season after breaking his wrist diving at the feet of Northampton Town 's Joe Kiernan in a pre @-@ season friendly . Leicester finished the season in seventh spot , and exited both cup competitions at the hands of Manchester City .

Despite being a World Cup winner in the previous summer , Banks was dropped towards the end of the 1966 ? 67 season for highly promising teenage reserve Peter Shilton . Manager Matt Gillies was blunt , telling Banks " we [Gillies and the club 's directors] think your best days are behind you , and you should move on " . Teammate Richie Norman told Banks that Gillies was pressured into the decision after Shilton told the board he would leave the club unless he was given first team football . Banks was transfer listed at £ 50 @,@ 000 , the same price the club received for Derek Dougan in March 1967 . However many of the big clubs were unwilling to outlay such an expense on a goalkeeper . Liverpool manager Bill Shankly showed strong interest , but could not convince the club 's board of directors to agree to such a large fee for a goalkeeper . West Ham United manager Ron Greenwood was prepared to match the fee , but instead signed Kilmarnock 's Bobby Ferguson for £ 65 @,@ 000 as he had already agreed terms with Kilmarnock and did not want to go back on his word . Terms were instead agreed with Stoke City , a mid @-@ table First Division side .

= = = Stoke City = = =

On leaving Filbert Street , Banks requested a loyalty bonus from Leicester , and was told by Matt Gillies " We 've decided not to pay you a penny . There 's to be no compensation payment and that 's final . " Banks then refused the move until Stoke boss Tony Waddington seemingly negotiated a £ 2 @,@ 000 payment out of Leicester . It was only some years later that Banks was informed that Stoke had actually made the payment , not Leicester . Waddington valued good goalkeepers highly , and the two built up a close relationship . During this time , Banks moved to Madeley , Staffordshire . He replaced John Farmer 's as the club 's number one , and kept goal in the last four games of the 1966 ? 67 season , making his home debut at the Victoria Ground in a 3 ? 1 win over former club Leicester .

Banks fitted in well at Stoke , as Waddington built a team of veteran players who were judged by some to be past their best . The " Potters " struggled near the foot of the First Division table in the 1967 ? 68 and 1968 ? 69 campaigns , before rising to ninth place in the 1969 ? 70 season . Banks remained a reliable stopper for the club , though on 1 March 1969 he was knocked unconscious at Roker Park by Sunderland 's Malcolm Moore , and his replacement David Herd conceded four goals in a 4 ? 1 defeat . Banks also played a season for the Cleveland Stokers of the American United

Soccer Association in the summer of 1968 ; he played seven of the short @-@ lived club 's 12 games in Cleveland , Ohio .

Banks made what he believed to be three of the best saves of his career in a Stoke shirt . In the first instance he saved and caught a powerful and well placed header from Manchester City 's Wyn Davies from just eight yards out , in the second case he saved a Francis Lee header at Maine Road , and he made his third great save for the club by catching a volley from Tottenham Hotspur 's Alan Gilzean that had been hit from just six yards out at White Hart Lane .

Stoke began to compete for honours in the 1970 ? 71 season , though despite impressive victories against the top two clubs ? Arsenal and Leeds United ? City ended the season in mid @-@ table obscurity . The club 's great achievement was in reaching the semi @-@ finals of the FA Cup , beating Millwall , Huddersfield Town , Ipswich Town and Hull City en route . Facing Arsenal at Hillsborough in the semi @-@ finals , they lost a two @-@ goal lead to draw 2 ? 2 , and were then beaten 2 ? 0 in the replay at Villa Park .

Despite another mid @-@ table finish in 1971 ? 72 , Stoke beat Chesterfield , Tranmere Rovers , Hull City and Manchester United to reach another FA Cup semi @-@ final . They again faced Arsenal , and once more a draw at Hillsborough meant a replay at Goodison Park . The " Gunners " goals in a 2 ? 1 victory came from a disputed Frank McLintock penalty and a John Radford goal that television replays showed was clearly offside . In a May 2011 interview , he said that he still felt " cheated " out of a chance to play for the club in an FA Cup final . Stoke and Banks found solace in the League Cup , though it took them 11 matches to reach the final after overcoming Southport , then Oxford United in a replay , Manchester United in a second replay , Bristol Rovers , and then West Ham United in a second replay following an aggregate draw after two legs . In extra @-@ time of the second leg with West Ham , Banks fouled Harry Redknapp to give up a penalty , and then saved Geoff Hurst 's powerful spot @-@ kick to keep City in the competition . They then faced Chelsea in the final at Wembley . Peter Osgood beat Banks with a hooked shot just before half @-@ time , but goals from Terry Conroy and George Eastham won Stoke the game at 2 ? 1 . At the end of the season Banks was named as the FWA Footballer of the Year , becoming the first goalkeeper to receive the honour since Bert Trautmann in 1956 .

On 22 October 1972 , while driving home from a session on his injured shoulder with the Stoke physiotherapist , Banks lost control of his new Ford Consul (a re @-@ badged Ford Granada Mk 1) car which ended up in a ditch . He had attempted to overtake a car on a sharp turn and collided with an oncoming Austin A60 van . He was taken to the North Staffordshire Hospital and during an operation received 200 stitches in his face and over 100 micro @-@ stitches inside the socket of his right eye , and was told the chances of saving the sight in his eye were 50 ? 50 . His sight never returned , and as the loss of binocular vision severely limited his abilities as a goalkeeper , he retired from professional football the following summer .

= = = Fort Lauderdale Strikers = = =

In April 1977 he went to play as a named superstar in the North American Soccer League (NASL) for Fort Lauderdale Strikers . The Strikers won their division in 1977 , and Banks was named NASL Goalkeeper of the Year after he conceded only 29 goals in 26 games ? the best defensive record in the NASL . He also played one League of Ireland game for St Patrick 's Athletic ; keeping a clean sheet in a 1 ? 0 win over Shamrock Rovers at Richmond Park on 2 October 1977 . He returned to Fort Lauderdale and played 11 games in the 1978 season .

= = International career = =

Banks was capped twice for the England under @-@ 23 side in matches against Wales and Scotland in 1961 .

Ron Springett was the goalkeeper for England as Banks rose to prominence , but after the 1962 World Cup in Chile , a new coach was appointed in former England right @-@ back Alf Ramsey . Ramsey demanded sole control of the team and began looking towards the next World Cup . Banks

won his first cap on 6 April 1963 against Scotland at Wembley , after Springett was dropped following a poor performance . England lost 2 ? 1 , though Banks was blameless as Scotland 's goals came firstly from an error by Jimmy Armfield and then secondly from the penalty spot . He was picked for the next match against Brazil , which ended in a credible 1 ? 1 draw after Bryan Douglas cancelled out Pepe 's opener . Banks continued to play consistently to become established as England 's first @-@ choice goalkeeper . In 1963 , he was picked to play against the Rest of the World , in a celebration match to mark 100 years of The Football Association .

Banks also played in two of England 's three games at the " Little World Cup " in Brazil in the summer of 1964 , a 1 ? 1 draw with Portugal and a 1 ? 0 defeat to Argentina . Blackpool 's Tony Waiters won five caps in the England goal in 1964 , but found that his challenge to Banks ' first team place came to an end after he conceded five goals to Brazil . During England 's summer of 1965 tour he built up a solid understanding with his defenders ? George Cohen , Jack Charlton , Bobby Moore , and Ray Wilson ? as he only conceded two goals in four matches against Hungary , Yugoslavia , West Germany , and Sweden . They then played seven friendlies in 1966 in the build @-@ up to the World Cup , though the team passed their biggest test of character in the British Home Championship , beating Scotland 4 ? 3 in front of a crowd of over 130 @,@ 000 at Hampden Park . Going into the competition , the only defeat in 21 matches since the " Little World Cup " came against Austria , in a game that Banks missed due to injury .

= = = 1966 World Cup = = =

Banks entered the 1966 FIFA World Cup as England 's first choice goalkeeper , and his understudies Ron Springett and Peter Bonetti never took to the field during the tournament . England opened the tournament with a goalless draw against Uruguay , with Banks a virtual spectator as the highly defensive Uruguayans rarely ventured out of their own half . They then defeated Mexico 2 ? 0 , with Banks again rarely troubled throughout . A 2 ? 0 win over France then took England through the group stage without Banks conceding a goal .

England beat Argentina 1 ? 0 in the last eight , with Geoff Hurst scoring with a header ; the match was sullied by the first @-@ half sending off of Argentinian midfielder Antonio Rattín , who refused to leave the pitch after being dismissed for dissent . In contrast to the previous games , the semi @-@ final against Portugal proved to be a fair contest between two sides of talented players eager to attack from the start of the match . Yet there was panic in the buildup to the game as trainer Harold Shepherdson forgot to buy chewing gum , which Banks used to make his hands stickier and better able to handle the ball , and so Shepherdson had to run to a nearby newsagents to purchase gum as the teams were in the tunnel . Bobby Charlton scored two goals , but Portugal made a strong finish and won a penalty on 82 minutes after Jack Charlton handled the ball in the penalty area . Eusébio converted the penalty after sending Banks the wrong way , and the game finished 2 ? 1 in England 's favour . This was the first goal Banks had conceded for England in 721 minutes of regular play , since giving up Scotland 's last goal after 81 minutes of the Home International clash in April . This remains a record for an England goalkeeper .

England 's opponents in the final were West Germany . It was England who dominated the final but it was Banks who was beaten first . A weak header from Ray Wilson handed a chance to Helmut Haller , who sent an accurate but relatively weak shot into the corner of the net ; Banks had been unsighted by Jack Charlton , and he failed to adjust his position in time to reach the ball . England equalised through a Geoff Hurst header within six minutes and went ahead late in the second half through Martin Peters . With seconds left in the game , Lothar Emmerich sent a free kick into the England penalty area , and the ball fell to Wolfgang Weber , who guided the ball over a lunging Ray Wilson and an outstretched Banks into the net to take the game into extra @-@ time . In extra @-@ time , the Germans sent shots in at the England goal which Banks managed to catch and control without any great danger . Hurst scored two goals to complete his hat @-@ trick , and though many claimed his second goal never crossed the line Banks always maintained his belief that the officials called the decision correctly . Between these goals Banks had to deal with a fiery shot from Siegfried Held , and was later exposed only for Uwe Seeler to come just centimetres away from connecting

with the ball .

== Euro 1968 ==

Scotland were the first team to beat the world champions , as goals from Denis Law , Bobby Lennox and Jim McCalliog secured a 3 ? 2 victory at Wembley on 15 April 1967 . Despite this set @-@ back , England qualified for UEFA Euro 1968 , which consisted of just four teams : England , Italy (hosts) , the Soviet Union , and Yugoslavia . England played just two games at the tournament , losing 1 ? 0 to Yugoslavia , and then beating the Soviets 2 ? 0 in the third @-@ place play @-@ off .

== 1970 World Cup ==

Banks went into the 1970 World Cup as England 's number one with 59 caps to his name , and had Peter Bonetti (one cap) and Alex Stepney (six caps) as his understudies . However he soon found that the heat and altitude at Guadalajara , Mexico difficult to cope with . The team 's efforts at acclimatization were not helped when Bobby Moore was falsely accused of stealing the infamous " Bogotá Bracelet " . Despite this , a Geoff Hurst goal was enough to beat their first opponents , Romania . A far tougher test awaited on 7 June , when England faced Brazil . The day before the match Banks was informed that he had been awarded an OBE .

Playing at pace , Brazil were putting England under enormous pressure and an attack was begun by captain Carlos Alberto who sent a low ball down the right flank for the speedy Jairzinho to latch on to . The Brazilian winger sped past left @-@ back Terry Cooper and crossed the ball into the six @-@ yard box , where Pelé connected with a powerful header to send the ball low towards the right @-@ hand corner of the goal . In the knowledge that his header was placed to perfection , Pelé immediately shouted " Gol ! " (Brazilian Portuguese for goal) .

The split @-@ second incident only allowed Banks time for one conscious thought ? that the shot was impossible to catch , and the only way to prevent Pelé from following up on the rebound would be to parry the ball over the bar . The ball bounced two yards in front of the goal @-@ line , and Banks managed to make contact with the ball with the fingers of his right hand , and rolled his hand slightly to angle to ball over the crossbar . He landed in the inner netting of the goal , and knew he had saved the ball after witnessing Pelé 's reaction . Banks then rose to his feet to defend the corner , and broke into laughter after the following exchange :

" I thought that was a goal . " (Pelé)

" You and me both . " (Banks)

" You 're getting old , Banksy , you used to hold on to them . " (Bobby Moore)

Pelé , and numerous journalists and pundits , would later describe the save as the greatest in the history of the game . Banks would later say " They won 't remember me for winning the World Cup , it 'll be for that save . That 's how big a thing it is . People just want to talk about that save . " In 2002 the UK public voted the save No. 41 in the list of the 100 Greatest Sporting Moments .

Brazil still won the game 1 ? 0 ? Jairzinho guided a shot past Banks in the second half . England ultimately joined Brazil in the last eight after a win in the final group game against Czechoslovakia . The reward was a rematch of the 1966 final against West Germany .

The day before the game Banks and England 's hopes of making further inroads into the World Cup were dented when he started to complain of an upset stomach . He became affected by violent stomach cramps and aching limbs , and spent his time in the bathroom sweating , shivering and vomiting . He passed an extremely undemanding fitness test but suffered a relapse shortly before the game and Ramsey was forced to rest him in place of Peter Bonetti . Ramsey remarked that " of all the players to lose , we had to lose him . " Banks watched the game on television at the hotel as England lost a two @-@ goal lead to be eliminated 3 ? 2 after extra time ; due to a time delay on the broadcast he switched the television off with England 2 ? 0 in the lead as Bobby Moore returned to the hotel to break the news of the defeat . Conspiracies later surfaced that Banks had been poisoned to take him out of the game , but with no evidence to support them Banks never believed

in these conspiracies .

= = = Final years = = =

Only four teams competed in UEFA Euro 1972 : Belgium (hosts) , Hungary , the Soviet Union , and West Germany . England came close to qualifying , but lost 3 ? 1 to West Germany in the final round of qualifying .

On 15 May 1971 , Banks was involved in a notorious incident with George Best who , while playing against England for Northern Ireland , flicked the ball out of Banks ' hands and headed it into the net . The move was audacious , but was disallowed by the referee , who judged it to be dangerous play . Banks played his 73rd and final game for England on 27 May 1972 , in a 1 ? 0 win over Scotland at Hampden Park . During his 73 international games he kept 35 clean sheets and lost just nine games .

= = Coaching career = =

In December 1977 he was appointed as a coach at Port Vale by manager Dennis Butler , being demoted to reserve coach in October 1978 by new boss Alan Bloor . Banks enjoyed coaching but soon resigned his position , feeling that players such as Bernie Wright refused to take his advice on board . He applied for the vacant management positions at Lincoln City and Rotherham United , but was rejected . He instead accepted the role as manager of Alliance Premier League part @-@ time club Telford United . He signed a goalkeeper , centre @-@ half and centre @-@ forward from Bangor City for £ 1 @, @ 500 , as well as former Stoke striker John Ruggiero . The " Bucks " finished in 13th place in 1979 ? 80 . In November 1980 , he left Jackie Mudie in temporary charge of team affairs whilst he underwent surgery , who led the club to defeat in the FA Trophy at the hands of a lower league club . On his return to the club Banks was sacked . He was offered the position of raffle @-@ ticket seller , and accepted the post in the belief that it would entitle him to the money owed to him in the terms of his management contract ; he eventually had to settle for 50 % of his contract . He later stated that " It broke my heart ... I did not want to stay in the game . "

= = Personal life = =

Banks first met his wife Ursula during his National service in Germany in 1955 . They had three children : Robert (born July 1958) , Wendy (1963) , and Julie (1969) . He separated from Ursula during his time in America , but the couple reunited when Banks returned to England . Banks ' nephew is Nick Banks , drummer of the band Pulp .

Shortly after his retirement , Banks was surprised by Eamonn Andrews for an episode of This Is Your Life . He later fronted a Leicester based hospitality company . He lost a significant sum of money when the business failed , but was helped out by Leicester City , who offered him a belated testimonial match . He was appointed as Stoke City 's president following the death of Stanley Matthews . Since the 1980s he has been a member of the three man pool 's panel .

In 2001 , he sold his World Cup winners medal at Christie 's for £ 124 @, @ 750 , and his international cap from the final was also sold at £ 27 @, @ 025 .

Banks was an Inaugural Inductee to the English Football Hall of Fame in 2002 . In March 2004 , he was named by Pelé as one of the world 's 125 greatest living footballers . He was awarded an honorary doctorate from Keele University in February 2006 . In May 2006 , Banks was the first " legend " to be inducted into a new Walk of Fame , by having a plaque installed in the pavement in front of Sheffield Town Hall . In July 2008 , Pelé unveiled a statue of Banks making his famous 1970 World Cup save outside the Britannia Stadium . In March 2011 , he was also inducted into the City of Stoke @-@ on @-@ Trent Hall of Fame , along with Roy Sprouson .

In 1980 Banks published his first autobiography , Banks of England . He published a more comprehensive autobiography in 2002 : Banksy : My Autobiography . Irish investigative author , Don Mullan , published a boyhood memoir in 2006 called GORDON BANKS : A Hero Who Could Fly in

which he wrote about the influence of the England goalkeeper on his life .

In December 2015 , it was announced he was receiving treatment for kidney cancer .

= = Career statistics = =

Sources :

Source :

= = Honours = =

England

FIFA World Cup : 1966

UEFA European Championship third @-@ place (Bronze Medallist) : 1968

British Home Championship (8) : 1964 (shared) , 1965 , 1966 , 1968 , 1969 , 1970 (shared) , 1971 , 1972