

Obituaries of Pleasant Alford's Descendants

By Robin Alford Sterling, AAFA #320

Pleasant M. Alford was born about 1818 in Alabama and died between 1880 and 1890 in Morgan County. He married Lavinia Sandlin in Morgan Co. 25 January 1838.

1840 Alabama Census: Pleasant Alford is listed in Walker County. The family group consists of one male, 20-30, and one female, 20-30.

1850 Alabama Census: The family is in Walker County (see 1850 Alabama Census in Summer 1995 issue, p. 42, for full listing). All were born in Alabama except Lavina, who was born in South Carolina:

Pleas.	Alford	M	31
Lavina	Alford	F	33
John W.	Alford	M	9
Ezekial	Alford	M	7
Elizabeth N.	Alford	F	6
Marian	Alford	F	3
Frances	Alford	F	2
Daniel W.	Alford	M	10 months

1860 Alabama Census: The family is in Walker County (see 1860 Alabama Census in Fall 1995 issue for full listing). All were born in Alabama except Lavina, who was born in South Carolina:

P.N.	Alfred	M	43
Lavina	Alfred	F	45
John W.	Alfred	M	20
Ezekiel	Alfred	M	18
Elizabeth	Alfred	F	17
Mary A.	Alfred	F	14
Frances P.	Alfred	F	13
Daniel W.	Alfred	M	12
Susan M.	Alfred	F	8

1870 Alabama Census: Pleasant (age 60) and "Vina" (age 50); son Daniel (20); and what appears to be a female "Mindy" (age 23) are in Morgan County.

1880 Alabama Census: Pleasant M. and Lavinia Alford are listed in Morgan County, with daughter Mary A. (age 34) apparently unmarried, and grandson Daniel W., age 2. Pleasant was 62; Lavinia was 64. Lavinia was born in South Carolina ("Vina" was born in Alabama on 1870 Census); all the rest were born in Alabama. There's a wide age discrepancy between 1870 and 1880 in what they gave as their ages.



The Morgan County Book of Deaths says that Lavinia Alford died on 15 Jul 1904 at the age of 93 and 2 months. She died of "senile debility" (old age?). Morgan County has a rather comprehensive set of Cemetery Books but she is not listed. I suspect she is buried in an unmarked grave south of Decatur near Falkville.

The generations represented in the following obituaries are:

- Pleasant Alford, b. 1818
- Ezekiel Alford, b. ca 1843
- Alfred L. Alford, b. 1867
- Alton Calvin Alford, b. 1869
- Charlie Alford
- Jessie Alford
- Pleasant M. Alford, b. 1875
- Grace Alford Hill

NANNIE H. ALFORD

THE HARTSELLE INQUIRER
 Thursday, 6 Jul 1944

Funeral services for Mrs. Nannie H. Alford, 93, who passed away Monday evening at her home on Falkville 1, were held Wednesday afternoon at Mt. Zion Church at 3:30 p.m. with Rev. Thomas Hatchett officiating. Interment followed in the adjoining cemetery, Peck directing.

The deceased is survived by four nieces, Misses Edna and Mary McAnear, Mrs. Ruby McAnear of Decatur, and Mrs. Susie Carros, of Mobile, and two nephews, Will McAnear of Falkville 1 and J.P. McAnear of Decatur.

Pallbearers were J.P. McAnear, Will McAnear, Frank Marlow, Scott Drake, Lee Brown, and Eunice Aldridge.

AAFA NOTE: Nannie H. McAnear Alford was the second wife of Ezekiel C. Alford, son of Pleasant and Lavinia Alford. She was born 4 Dec 1850 and died 5 Jul 1944. She married Ezekiel on 14 Sep 1890 in Morgan County, Alabama.

JANIE ROBINSON ALFORD

THE DECATUR DAILY
 Monday, 11 Feb 1952

Funeral services for Mrs. Janie Alford, 77, Hartselle 1, will be held today at 2 pm at Mt. Zion Church.

Rev. Frank Smith will conduct the rites and interment will follow in the adjoining cemetery, Peck directing.

Mrs. Alford died yesterday at 8:34 am at her residence.

She is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Hattie Harris, Hartselle 1; Mrs. Mary E. Harris, Makomis, Illinois; and Mrs. Robert Culver, Adamsville; two brothers James H. Robinson, Falkville; and Elmer Robinson, Falkville; one sister, Mrs. Laura Simpson, Tifton, Georgia; 10 grandchildren, eight great grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be John D. Robinson, Fred Robinson, Thomas Robinson, Ralph Shaw, Harris Dobbs, and Robert Culver, Jr.

AAFA NOTE: Janie Robinson Alford was the wife of Alfred L. Alford. Alfred was born 16 Oct 1867 and died 16 Mar 1940. He is buried next to Janie R. Alford. Janie was born 3 Nov 1874 and died 10 Feb 1952. Alfred is listed in the 1880 Morgan County Census as the son of Ezekiel C. Alford.

ALTON CALVIN "JOBE" ALFORD

THE DECATUR DAILY
Friday, 11 December 1953

Funeral services for Jobe Alford, 86, Hartselle 3, will be held at the Mount Zion Baptist Church, Saturday, at 1 p.m., Rev. Frank T. Smith will officiate.

Mr. Alford died at his home Thursday at 4:25 p.m.

Survivors include: Mrs. Emma Alford, wife, Hartselle 3, four daughters; Mrs. Oscar Thompson, Hartselle 3, Mrs. O.B. Dunlap, Falkville 1, Mrs. Walter Oden, Cullman, Mrs. Albert Gibson, Birmingham.

There are four sons: E.C. Alford, Tarrant City, Albert Alford, Birming-

ham, Leldon (John) Alford, Hartselle 3, and Jessie Alford, Hartselle 3. There is one brother, Pleas Alford, Falkville 1, and 16 grandchildren, also 16 great grandchildren.

Grandsons will act as pallbearers.

Burial will follow the church services, in the adjoining cemetery, with Peck directing.

AAFA NOTE: Alton Calvin Alford went by "Joe" or "Jobe." He was born 23 Nov 1869 in Morgan County, Alabama and died on 10 Dec 1953. He was the son of Ezekiel Alford.

MARY EMMA DRAKE ALFORD

THE DECATUR DAILY
20 April 1955

Hartselle—Thursday at 2 p.m. funeral services for Mrs. Mary Emma Alford, 77, are to be conducted by the Rev. Paul McCluskey at the Mt. Zion Baptist Church where the deceased was a member. Mrs. Alford, who had been ill for sometime, died this morning at 3:30 at her Hartselle 3 home.

Mrs. Alford is survived by four daughters, Mrs. O.B. Dunlap, Falkville 1, Mrs. O.J. Thompson, Hartselle 3, Mrs. W.A. Oden, Cullman, Mrs. Albert Gibson, Birmingham; four sons, E.C., Tarrant City, Albert, Birmingham, Leldon, Birmingham, Jess, Hartselle 3; 16 grandchildren; 18 great grandchildren; and one sister, Mrs. W.A. Huie, Gadsden.

Interment is to be in the adjoining cemetery, Peck directing.

Grandsons will serve as pallbearers.

AAFA NOTE: Mary Emma Drake Alford was the wife of Alton Calvin

Alford. She was born 28 Mar 1879 and died 20 Apr 1955. They were the grandparents of AAFA #007 Betty Alford Dietz. Betty's father was Leldon Alford mentioned in the obituary.

JESSIE ALFORD

THE DECATUR DAILY
10 Dec 1962

Hartselle—Jessie Alford, 70, Hartselle 3, died Sunday at 11:45 a.m. at a local rest home.

Funeral services will be today at 2 p.m. from the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, with the Rev. Paul McCleskey officiating.

Burial will be in the Mt. Zion Cemetery with Peck Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include four sisters, Mrs. O.J. Thompson, Mrs. O.B. Dunlap, both of Hartselle 3; Mrs. Walter Oden, New Roads, La., Mrs. Albert Gibson, Birmingham, three brothers, Elmer Alford, Tarrant City, Ala.; Albert Alford, Birmingham; Leldon Alford, Pratt City, Ala.

AAFA NOTE: Jessie Alford was born 28 Jan 1892 and died 9 Dec 1962. He was a son of Alton Calvin and Mary Emma Alford; he never married.

CHARLIE ALFORD

THE DECATUR DAILY
Wednesday, 21 Nov 1951

Final rites for Charlie Alford, 46, Springfield, Missouri, will be held Thursday at 1 pm at the Mt. Zion church.

Rev. Frank Smith will conduct the services and interment will follow in the adjoining cemetery, Peck directing.

Alford, a former Morgan County resident, died Tuesday in Sikeston, Missouri.

Survivors include his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. A.C. "Joe" Alford, Hartselle 3; four sisters, Mrs. W.O. Thompson, Hartselle; Mrs. Walter Oden, Cullman; Mrs. Eula Dunlap, Falkville; and Mrs. Albert Gibson, Birmingham; four brothers, Jessie A., Hartselle; Elmer, Albert, and Leldon Alford, all of Birmingham.

Pallbearers will be nephews; Arnold Thompson, Edward Thompson, Floyd Thompson, Leon Alford, Howard Alford, and Billy Gibson.

The deceased was a member of the Mt. Zion church.

AAFA NOTE: Charlie Alford is another son of Alton Calvin and Mary Emma Alford. He was born November 28, 1905 and married Virgie Mayo. Billy Gibson, who was one of his pallbearers, is AAFA #199.

GRACE ALFORD HILL

THE DECATUR DAILY
26 July 1993

Hartselle-Funeral for Grace A. Hill, 91, of Summerford Nursing Home in Falkville will be Tuesday at 2 p.m. at Gandy's Cove United Methodist Church with the Rev. Fred Nichols officiating.

Burial will be in Cook Cemetery with Peck Funeral Home directing. The body will be at the church one hour before the service. The family will receive friends tonight from 6 to 9 at the funeral home.

Mrs. Hill died Sunday at the nursing home. She was born Grace Alford on Aug. 6, 1901 in Morgan County.

She is survived by one son, Harold Hill

of Decatur; one sister, Irene Hill of Eva; one grandchild; and two great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Corky Hill, Chris Bryant, Don Turney, Bobby Alford, Gene Hill and William Hill.

AAFA NOTE: Grace Alford Hill was a daughter of Pleasant M. Alford, son of Ezekiel Alford. (See his obituary in AAFA ACTION, Summer 1994, p. 35.) Grace was born 6 Aug 1901 in Morgan County, Alabama and died 25 Jul 1993. Her husband, Marion Elbert Hill was born 7 Mar 1908 and died 24 Oct 1989. His obituary follows.

MARION ELBERT HILL

THE DECATUR DAILY
25 Oct 1989

Hartselle-Funeral for Elbert Hill, 81, of Falkville Health Care Center will be Thursday at 2 p.m. at Gandy's Cove United Methodist Church with the Rev. Fred Nichols officiating.

Burial will be in Cook Cemetery with Peck Funeral Home directing. The body will be at the church one hour before the service. The family will receive friends tonight from 6 to 9 at the funeral home.

Mr. Hill died Tuesday at Hartselle Medical Center.

He is survived by his wife, Grace Hill of Summerford Nursing Home in Falkville; one son, Harold Hill of Decatur; six brothers, Gilbert Hill of Eva and Alvin Hill, Clifton Hill, Wilburn Hill, Clyde Hill and Aubrey Hill all of Falkville; one sister, Virginia Sartin of Hartselle; one grandchild; and two great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Alan Hill, Chris Byrant, Joe Hill, Bobby Hill, Gary Norwood, and William Hill. ♦

(Halfords, cont. from p. 40)

Besides, Mr. Halford had hoped to develop Fight while still working with Judas Priest.

"When it was first announced, I had the support of Priest," he says.

Columbia, Priest's longtime faithful label, didn't like Mr. Halford's Fight music, and told him to rework it.

Insulted, Mr. Halford looked for another label for Fight. But he says his "unfair" contract with Columbia wouldn't let him play in Fight under another label unless he submitted a "leaving member" letter.

Tension began to wear on his Priest band mates, who wanted to stay on good terms with Columbia, Mr. Halford says. Finally, after some infighting, he wrote to Columbia saying he was leaving. "Then all hell broke loose," he says, somewhat casually.

"I felt it was impossible for me to remain," he says. "Everything disintegrated on a personal level. I just really looked at the big picture. For me to stay with Priest would have been the easy thing to do: make another record and go on tour. But in terms of personal artistic satisfaction, it wouldn't have been a rewarding thing to do.

"So the only thing I could do was leave Priest. I felt if I stayed in Priest I would have cheated myself and cheated Priest. Now I want to enjoy these new possibilities. It's never too late to make that decision. It's easy to stay on that repetitive level.

"With the developments in contemporary metal in America, it served as a cattle prod to my head. It was just time to take stock in my life and my career." ♦