



The Alford American Family Association

Serving the Alford community over 25 Years
We Are Family!!

Walter Milton “Milt” Folds

AAFA #0049S

Founding Member

January 22, 1928 ~ August 13, 2020



Obituary

Decatur, Georgia, Walter Milton Folds, age 92, died on Thursday, August 13, 2020 at Haywood Regional Medical Center in Waynesville, NC following complications from a fall.

Milt was preceded in death by his wife of 56 years, Roberta Alford Folds, who died in 2010. He is survived by his two daughters, Susan Folds and Becky Folds, and her husband, Adnan Rukieh along with many nieces and nephews.

Milt was born in Haines City, Florida making him, as he loved to tell people, a native Floridian. He was a graduate of Florida State University where he received his undergraduate and master's degrees. Most of his career was spent in economic development. On the local level he worked in Panama City, FL, Augusta, GA, and Macon, GA. He led the State Development Board in South Carolina before accepting the job of Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Industry and Trade (now known as Economic Development) where he worked closely with Gov. George Busbee to recruit businesses to the State. Their efforts resulted in thousands of jobs and increased awareness abroad of Georgia. He then served as a vice president for the Kimberly-Clark Corporation until his retirement.

His career gave him the opportunity to travel throughout the world and travel remained a joy the rest of his life. Genealogy became another passion and he shared his knowledge of research with a class at Oak Grove UMC for 15 years. Milt also loved gardening and was still tending his plants until a few days before his death.

When he married Roberta, he became a Methodist because he said she was a much better Methodist than he was a Baptist. He loved the church and served in a variety of roles in whichever church became home. Most recently he and Susan worshipped at Waynesville First UMC after they relocated to the beautiful North Carolina mountains. He was a loving husband, father and uncle and will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

A family graveside side will be held at Oak Grove United Methodist Church Cemetery, Decatur, Georgia at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, August 17, 2020. If you would like to donate in his honor please send to the Refugee Ministry, Oak Grove UMC, 1722 Oak Grove Rd., Decatur, GA 30033.

The care of Mr. Folds has been entrusted to Wells Funeral Homes.

Published in Atlanta Journal-Constitution on Aug. 16, 2020.

Photo and information were copied from the [Wells Funeral Homes](#) web page.

Personal Data

Birth: 22 Jan 1928
Haines City, Polk County, Florida, USA
Death: 13 Aug 2020 (aged 92)
Waynesville, Haywood County, North Carolina, USA
Burial: Oak Grove Methodist Church Cemetery
Oak Grove, DeKalb County, Georgia, USA
Memorial ID: 214398264

Family Members

- Parents
William Samuel Folds, 1898–1973
Pearl Agnes Nix, 1906–1998
- Spouse
Roberta Sue Alford, 1928–2010, (m. 1953)
- Siblings
Ida Lucille Folds Hunt, 1925-2010
Helen Lenora Folds Stripling, 1929-1979
- Children
Susan Folds
Becky Folds Rukieh

Information copied from the [Find-A-Grave](#) and [Ancestry](#) web pages.

AAFA Notes:

1. Milt's wife's Alford lineage: Roberta Sue 1928 FL¹, Claude Lamar 1895 FL², Walton "Buddy" 1862 FL³, Wiley Walton 1811 GA⁴, Cullen 1775 NC⁵, James 1741 NC/VA⁶, Lodwick 1710 VA⁷, James 1687 VA⁸, John 1645 VA⁹.
2. Milt and his wife Roberta hosted the very first AAFA meeting in Atlanta in 1988. Not only did they make the hotel arrangements, etc., they had the entire group (14!) to their house on Friday evening for a buffet dinner. They have been quiet recently, but they are missed sorely.
3. Milt and his wife Roberta were inducted into the AAFA Hall of Fame in 1992 for their contribution of making all arrangements for first AAFA Meeting in Atlanta, GA, 1988. They were also instrumental in the recovery of the Guy Alford collection.

4. **2011 Alford Family Reunion Report**

By Ramona Alford Darden, AAFA 0715, Meetings Chair

About Alford's began on Saturday afternoon. Milton Folds gave a very informative presentation on the line of his wife Roberta Alford. She was a descendant of



Lodwick through his great grandson Wiley Alford who was born in 1811/12 in Georgia. Milton has done a great deal of research on the line of Lodwick Alford and his wives and descendants. He wanted to stress how important it is in research not to forget about the wives and their maiden names and the fact that those maiden names may have been used to name some of their children as well. Also, some of those families possibly moved along with your family as they moved to a new location. He also dealt with terms used to identify a person such as "esquire" and "ordinary," which could help you in identifying your ancestor.

5. Milt wrote a series of two articles which were published in the *AAFA Action*, issues [#96, Spring 2012, Page 9](#), and [#97, Summer 2012, Page 12](#). The series was titled **THEY SHALL BE KNOWN BY THE COMPANY THEY KEPT AND THE LAND UPON WHICH THEY LIVED**.
- a. Part One: *FINDING SARAH ALFORD*
 - b. Part Two: *ALFORDS, BOYKINS, CADES, ROGERS AND WOOTENS*

Miscellaneous Data

Biography & Genealogy Master Index (BGMI)

Who's Who in the South and Southwest. 18th edition, 1982-1983. Wilmette, IL
Marquis Who's Who, 1982. (WhoSSW 18)

From: mfold28@aol.com <mfold28@aol.com>

Sent: Friday, September 4, 2020 1:29:48 PM

To: alford_staff@alfordassociation.org <alford_staff@alfordassociation.org>

I just wanted to let you know that my dad, Milt Folds, died on August 13, 2020. My mother was an Alford and they were both very active in the AAFA at one time. At 92, he still had a love for genealogy and enjoyed making new discoveries about our families and those of friends he was helping with their family tracing.

Susan Folds

Sent: Friday, September 4, 2020 10:58 PM
To: mfold28@aol.com <mfold28@aol.com>
Subject: Re: AAFA: Deceased Member: #0049 Milton Folds

Susan, you probably know this, but way back in 1988, at our very first AAFA annual meeting in Atlanta, your parents invited our group of 14 to their home for a lovely dinner. Those of us who were there always remembered that. We have an In Remembrance for your mother, Roberta, in our [Member Memorial](#) section, and we'll make one for Milt also. They were very important to AAFA, and their contributions were, and are, much appreciated.

Pam Alford Thompson
AAFA #0030