



The Alford American Family Association

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

Donald Ray “Don” Alford

AAFA #0059

October 5, 1928 - June 29, 2014

Founding Member



Obituary



Donald "Don" R. Alford, 85, passed away Sunday, June 29, 2014. Don and his wife Joan were longtime members of Indian River Colony Club. Don served in the U.S. Navy and was a veteran of the Korean War.

He is survived by his loving wife, Joan; sons, Evan, and Brian Alford and three grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his daughter, Kara Sue.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, July 5, 2014 at the Faith "Viera" Lutheran Church with Military Honors. The family will receive friends at the church one hour prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions to the Chapel at IRCC or Faith Viera Lutheran Church.

Published in the Florida Today, Melbourne, FL on Thursday, 3 July 2014.

Information copied from the [Beckman-Williamson Funeral Homes](#) web page.



DONALD RAY ALFORD, 85, of the Indian River Colony Club in Melbourne, FL. Don was a U.S. Navy veteran who served during the Korean War. Preceded in death by his daughter, Kara Sue, surviving are his wife, Joan; sons, Evan and Brian Alford and 3 grandchildren. A Celebration of Life will be held July 5, 2014 at Faith "Viera" Lutheran Church with Military Honors.

Published in the Florida Today on July 3, 2014.

Information copied from the [Find-A-Grave](#) web page.

Personal Data

Birth: 5 Oct 1928
Dierks, Howard County, Arkansas, USA
Death: 29 Jun 2014 (aged 85)
Melbourne, Brevard County, Florida, USA
Burial: Cremated, Ashes given to family or friend
Memorial ID: 132235377

Family Members

- Parents
William Preston Alford, 1905–1990
Lydia Adeline Dowty, 1904–1988
- Spouse
Earline Joan Hiesrodt, 1932-2018
- Siblings
Roy Lee Alford
- Children
Evan Alford
Carol Sue Alford
Brian Neal Alford

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

AAFA Notes:

1. Don's Alford lineage: Donald Ray 1928 AR¹, William Preston 1905 AR², William Anderson 1881 AR³, Franklin Ewing 1861 AR⁴, Madison Ewing 1815 AL⁵, David 1785 VA⁶, Robert 1760 England⁷.
2. For more information about this family, see AAFA's published genealogy, [Descendants of Robert Alford b. 1760 England](#).



Miscellaneous Data

USS CAPERTON



DD-650



High Flight

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed and joined the tumbling mirth
of sun-split clouds - and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of - wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air.
Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
Where never lark, or even eagle flew -
And, while the silent lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand and touched the face of God.



In Loving Memory
Donald "DON" R. Alford
October 5, 1928 - June 29, 2014

In Loving Memory
Donald Ray Alford

Born
October 5, 1928
Dierks, Arkansas

Departed This Life
June 29, 2014
Melbourne, Florida

Celebration of Life
Saturday, July 5, 2014 ~ 10:30 A.M.
Faith "Viera" Lutheran Church
Rockledge, Florida
with Military Honors

Officiating
Pastor Ron Meyr
Faith "Viera" Lutheran Church
Rockledge, Florida

Arrangements By
Beckman Williamson Funeral Home
Viera, Florida

*In Loving
Memory*

*Donald Ray
Alford*



*October 5, 1928
to
June 29, 2014*

Don R. Alford
1928 – 2014
AAFA #0059

***Celebration of Life
Donald Ray Alford
Faith "Viera" Lutheran
July 5, 2014***

Words of Welcome Pastor Meyr

Opening Hymn *"How Great Thou Art"* (vs 1&2) #801

Invocation & Funeral Charge

First Reading *2 Timothy 4:6-8* Rev. Dr. Marlene Walters
(IRCC Worship)

Words of Scripture *Psalm 23* (Responsively)

P: The Lord is My Shepherd;

C: **I shall not want.**

P: He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;

C: **He leadeth me beside the still waters.**

P: He restoreth my soul;

C: **He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.**

P: Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will
fear no evil;

C: **For Thou art with me;**

P: Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.

C: **Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;**

P: Thou anointest my head with oil;

C: **My cup runneth over.**

P: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;

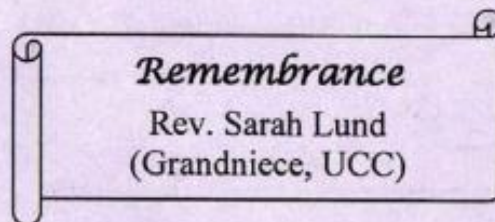
C: **And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

All: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Second Reading

John 14:1-6

Pastor Al Bielenberg



Hymn

"How Great Thou Art"

(vs 3&4) #801

Sermon

Pastor Meyr

Family & Friends Remembrances
Evan Alford & Dick Gallager

Prayers of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Closing Hymn

"Navy Hymn"

(vs 1,2,3) #717

Military Honors

Processional to Columbarium

*Led by a Bag piper!
Playing Amazing Grace!
Loving Memory*

Following the service this morning, committal will be to the left through the patio to the Columbarium area. Following the committal, you are invited to Colony Hall at the Indian River Colony Club for a time of refreshments and greeting the family.

Donald Ray Alford was born Oct. 5th, 1928 and passed away on June 29, 2014 in Melbourne, FL. He was born in Dierks, Arkansas (his parents were peach farmers and had an orchard in Nashville, Arkansas). He attended all his elementary and high school years in Dierks. He then went to Oklahoma Agricultural College for his first two years and then to University of Missouri in Columbia, MO where he received his Bachelor's Degree in Education. From there he enlisted in the Navy and became an Ensign and also served in the Korean Conflict. He returned to college at the University of Missouri and graduated with a Civil Engineering degree.

Don was a man of stability all of his life - someone who could be counted on to keep his commitments. That began with his wife - he and Joan were married 60 years ago on Sept. 11th, 1954. He worked really for one company all his life - AT&T - and that commitment took him all over the world. He was baptized at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Kansas City and kept that commitment to His Lord and Savior all his life.

The places he was "sent and worked" included: St. Louis, MO; Kansas City, MO; Manhattan, KS; Richmond, VA and Summit, NJ. He was under contract to the Defense Department and worked at establishing an "underground farm home" in Drainsville, VA. As an expert in military communications, he also worked with the military command in Arizona and California. When AT&T was being "broken up" he was in Chicago at those national discussions. He also was sent to Iran to work with the Shah before the events of the late 70's.

In retirement, he and Joan went back to Russellville, Arkansas to care for his parents (another commitment he fulfilled). They did love to travel - in their RV - in fact at one point living for six months in the RV traveling around the country. They even drove to Alaska - and had a "highlight of life" trip to Israel with Pastor Meyr and members of the church here in Viera. Along with his RV travels he was a very skilled and accomplished pilot. He flew a single-engine private airplane from the US all through Latin America with four adults onboard. Quite an accomplishment! In 1997, they moved to IRCC where they enjoyed many years of friends, activities, and church, both at Faith Viera Lutheran and at the Chapel. He is survived by his loving wife, Joan, sons, Evan and Brian Alford and 3 grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his daughter, Kara Sue.