



The Alford American Family Association

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

Richard Lindsay Alford

AAFA #0266

May 7, 1926 – October 25, 2012

Charter Member

Richard L. and Marilyn Monahan Alford

We are newcomers, having been here only a little more than twenty years. When Dick retired from the Navy in 1970, we decided to leave the overpopulated west coast behind and find a home somewhere in the mountains. After extensive travel in the intermountain region, we settled in Salmon on Tower Creek, buying the second place north of the fork.

At that time, there were only a few neighbors. Beth and Bob Dillon were at the mouth of the creek and had the only telephone. We really didn't miss having a phone, but it was nice to be able to use theirs occasionally. Half a mile below us were Doc and Louise Norton, and a mile above us were Ralph and Blanch Cottrell. They made us feel welcome. On the east fork were Ted and Maryanne Tudor, and at the head of that fork were Arch and Myrtle Marsing. All were wonderful neighbors and helped us enormously during our first years on the creek. We had much to learn about all those things that everyone but us seemed to know about. We spent a number of years remodeling the old house, which had been build about 1908 by Orsen H. Kellogg. Also, there was a good deal of fencing to be done, sagebrush to clear and a barn to build.

Judith Gay, our daughter, attended school in Salmon and Maridean Bromley made her feel at home in that first semester of sixth grade. After high school, she went on to receive her degree in nursing at Idaho State University. While there, she met her future husband Jerry Alexander Justice of Twin Falls. They were married on June 6, 1981 in an outdoor wedding at the ranch on Tower Creek. Their first child, Chase Justice, died at the age of fifteen months. With their two daughters. Gemma and Casandra, they now live in Clarkston, Michigan.

Marilyn's parents, Margaret and Edward Monahan, spent the last years of their lives with us in Salmon. Both are buried in the Salmon Cemetery.

Richard Lindsay Alford was born May 7, 1926 in Medford, Oregon, the only son of Herbert Lindsay Alford and Bernice Winifred Crowson. Both of his parents came from pioneer families of Southern Oregon.

After graduating high school in Medford, Dick entered the Navy and under the V-12 program, attended Carrol College at Helena, Montana and the University of Colorado at Boulder, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree and was commissioned an Ensign in 1948. In 1956, he received a Master of Science degree from the Naval Postgraduate School at Monterey, California.

During his naval career, he served as Commanding Officer of the USS Redhead AMS-34, the USS Brush DD-745, and served on numerous other ships at sea. He is the recipient of the Bronze Star, two navy Commendation Medals with combat distinguishing device, and the Meritorious Service Medal. In 1970, Dick retired from active duty with the rank of Commander. He is an avid golfer and designs and builds firearms in his spare time.

Marilyn Margaret Monahan, my full name, was born in San Pedro, California on January 13, 1931. My parents were Richard Hilton Wharton and Margaret Ida Turner. I legally took the name of my stepfather, Edward R. Monahan, before my marriage. I attended school in Los Angeles and Long Beach, California, and graduated from the Medical Assistants program of Long Beach City College, earning an Associate Degree.

Marilyn and Richard Alford

On April 2, 1952, we were married at Bayshore Congregational Church in Belmont Shore, California. Eight months after the wedding, Dick was serving in the Korean Theater in command of a Minesweeper. After a year and a half, he returned and we went to Monterey, California where he attended the Naval Post Graduate School. After six months on the east coast, we were once again in California, stationed at San Diego. Dick's ship went to sea a week before our daughter Judith Gay was born on September 22, 1959, at Coronado, California. He returned to see his daughter for the first time, six months later.

During the following years we lived in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Japan before returning to California. While we were in Japan, Judy started school. There was no American kindergarten so she attended the "Cherry Blossom School", a Japanese kindergarten taught by Australian nuns. Needless to say there were some interesting language patterns and accents there. During our nearly three years in Japan the Vietnam War began and upon returning to California, Dick became Commanding Officer of a destroyer which served in Vietnam for quite some time.

During Dick's naval career, I was active in the Navy Relief Society, various Navy wives' groups and was president of the Fleet Officers' Wives Club of Long Beach, California. Since coming to Salmon, I have worked as a volunteer at the Public Library and was a member of the board of directors of the Lemhi County Humane Society. I am a glass artist exhibiting in galleries throughout the west.

— Marilyn Alford

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Information copied from the [Archive.com](#) web page.

Birth: 7 May 1926
Medford, Jackson, Oregon, USA
Death: 25 Oct 2012 (aged 86)
Burial: Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery
San Diego, San Diego County, California, USA
Plot: SECTION CC18A, ROW 3, SITE 21
Memorial ID: 101283414
Photo added by: [PIN](#) ♥
Inscription: CDR US NAVY
WORLD WAR II, KOREA, VIETNAM

Family Members • Parents:

- Herbert Lindsay Alford, 1894-1969
- Bernice Winnefred Crowson, 1904-1986
- Spouse (Marriage: 6 Apr 1952, Los Angeles, CA) Marilyn Margaret Monahan Alford, 1931-2016

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