

H. Harold Alford
Jan 2 1929 - Mar 7 1995
AAFA# 0226

H. Harold "Hal" Alford
1929 – 1995
AAFA #226

Hollis Harold "Hal" Alford⁹ (Hollis Victor⁴, Julius C.⁷, Warren Jackson⁶, Edwin Barksdale⁵, Jacob⁴, Julius³, James², John¹) was b. 2 January 1929 in Pike Co., MS, the son of Hollis Victor and Ethel McMillan Alford. He married Barbara Jo Lewis on 25 February 1960 in Fitzgerald, Ben Hill County, Georgia. They had two children: Victor Harold Alford, AAFA #225, born 11 December 1960, and Hollis Anne Alford born 22 January 1963. Hal died on 7 March 1995 in Altamonte Springs, FL, and is buried at Highland Memory Gardens in Forest City, FL. His obituary follows:

MCCOMB ENTERPRISE-JOURNAL
 McComb, MS—9 March 1995

Longwood, Fla.—H. Harold Alford, 66, of Orlando, died of cancer March 7 1995.

Visitation will be from 9 a.m. Friday at Forest City Chapel in Altamonte, Fla., until services there at 11 a.m. Friday.

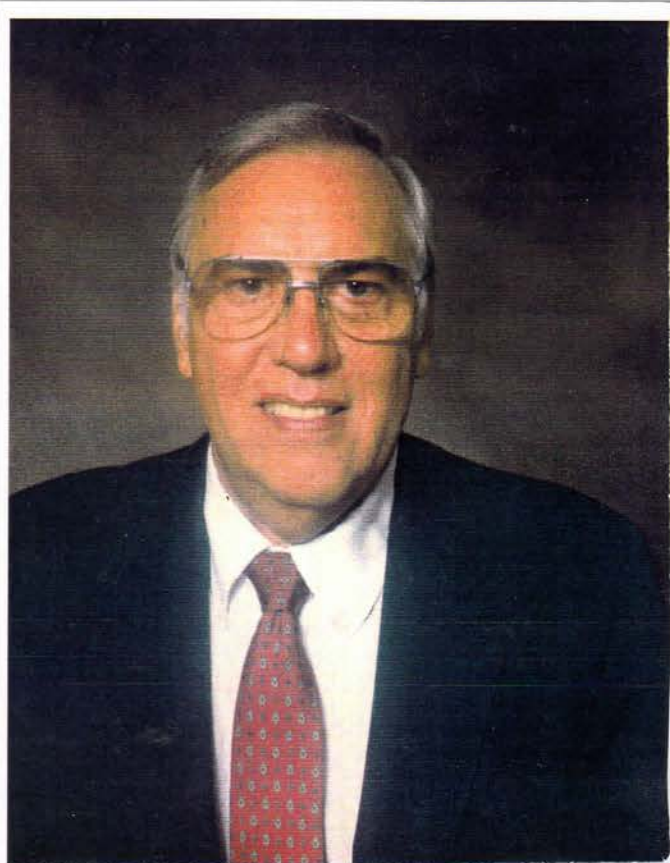
Mr. Alford was born in Pike County and moved to Central Florida in 1976. He was a member of Calvary Assembly of God Church.

He was a regional estate planning specialist for Southern Farm Bureau for more than 30 years. He was a member of the Central Florida Estate Planning Council and the Central

Florida Chapter of American Society of CLY and ChFC. He was a veteran of the Korean War, serving as a captain in the U.S. Air Force. He served in the Air Force Reserves after the war.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara Jo Alford of Longwood; one son and daughter-in-law, Victor and Lora Alford of Altamonte; one daughter and son-in-law, Cissy and Scott Vanlue of Longwood; one sister, Mrs. Leon C. Jones of Richmond, Va.; and two grandchildren.

Hal's parents' family in Pike County, like most in that period, were poor and made their living farming. Hal worked hard on the farm to help the family survive and for a diversion he collected arrowheads from the fields. At age 16, and after finishing the 11th grade, Hal hitchhiked to Mississippi State University, with a cardboard suitcase and \$100. At college he was a chemistry minor and a dairy sciences major. He worked his way through college by doing all kinds of side work but mainly by working in the cafeteria.



Hal was underage for service in World War II. He was a veteran of the Korean War, serving as a captain in the U.S. Air Force and served in the Air Force Reserves after the war. He served in Alaska doing intelligence work.

When he returned from service he went to work as manager of an ice cream packing plant in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. After that, in the early 1960s, he went to work for Allstate Insurance Company in Georgia. From there he moved to Farm Bureau Insurance and to McComb, Mississippi near his birthplace, and then to Raymond, Mississippi near Jackson. In 1966 he became the Louisiana state sales manager and moved to Baton Rouge. After a few years it was back to Jackson, Mississippi to be state sales manager for that state. While in Louisiana Hal won many awards including a key to the city of Baton Rouge.

Hal moved to Florida in 1976, where he worked for Southern Farm Bureau. He also had some real estate holdings and was quite involved in maintaining occupancy in all of them.

He was always involved in his church and its choir even though he was extremely busy. He tried to attend as many functions as possible and to involve his children in the band and other activities. He was an avid reader—especially his Bible, which family members say has annotations and highlighting on just about every page. He was a member of Calvary Assembly of God Church.

Hal had few outside interests—occasional fishing or hunting—and did not become interested in his family history until after he was introduced to AAFA by his son, Victor, at the 1989 meeting in Houston, TX. Hal and Victor have attended most meetings of the Association. Hal, his wife, Barbara Jo Lewis Alford, son Vic, and sister Dorothy Alford Jones of Richmond, VA—and many in her family—have been very active in AAFA.

Dorothy's daughter, Jean, was the first AAFA North Carolina State representative and coordinated the 1990 Raleigh meeting. Hal's son, Victor, made a presentation on old photographs at the 1992 meeting in Destin, FL.

Hal was elected President of AAFA in Jackson, MS in 1991 but later had to resign because of other pressing commitments. He served on the board of directors from 1991 until his death.

When asked in 1991 if he would consent to be a candidate for AAFA president, he wrote: "As I told you, I need to retire before I take on more jobs. However, for you I'll consent to run (maybe I'll lose this one and make another.) Anyhow, I'll help in whatever way I can." In July 1992 AAFA received a letter in which he wrote: "Due to my travel schedule

and other demands on my time I'm simply unable to devote the time that a president of the Association should be contributing. As usual, Jo is right again—she told me when I accepted that it was loading my wagon beyond my capacity. Thanks a million to all of you. See you all in Destin." Destin was the last time most of us ever saw Hal. In September 1993 Jo wrote to explain Hal's work schedule and other commitments and their reasons for not making the meeting in St. Francisville. She went on to say "...and I certainly look forward to seeing you again in the future, God willing. Perhaps Hal and I can concentrate a little better after he retires in the next year or so and we're not traveling so much otherwise." The last note we received from Hal in August 1994 said, "Sorry to be so long to be in touch—believe it or not, this time I have a reasonable excuse. In 1983 I was diagnosed with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia. The CLL sorta hung around without any problem 'til March of this year. With my immune system weak, I had gall bladder surgery, 2 weeks later lung partially removed. I've since been recuperating slowly but progressively. As of now I don't know that I'll be in Richmond come October. I'm still scheduled for some chemotherapy and I don't know when it will start. I'm told it will last for approximately 6 months. I sincerely hope all goes well with the coming family gathering."

I talked to him briefly while he was in the hospital. He sounded good and gave good reports but letters received from sister Dotty told otherwise. I remember Hal as the person in the AAFA who made me laugh more than anyone else. He had many of us "rolling in the aisles" at the meeting in Houston. From a serious point of view, he did more than any other member to try to promote AAFA's long term financial stability.

—Gil Alford ♦

H. Harold Alford 0226
b. Jan 2 1929 & d. Mar 7 1995
Lived in Longwood, FL
Family EDW792NC/JAM687VA
Attended 0 meeting(s).

Hal was great supporter of the association and agreed to serve as President for a period. Health and other priorities required him to resign.



#0226 H. Harold Alford 1929 - 1995 & Son #0225 Victor H. Alford
Photo taken Pike Co. MS Grave site of Edwin B. Alford June 1990
Old homestead in background



On right facing camera
#0225 Victor H. Alford & his father #0226 H. Harold Alford 1929 - 1995
Photo taken Houston, TX meeting October 1989



#0226 H. Harold Alford 1929 - 1995
Photo taken Houston, TX meeting October 1989
AAFA President 1991



#0226 H. Harold Alford 1929 - 1995
Photo taken Raleigh, NC meeting October 1990



#0226 H. Harold Alford 1929 - 1995
Photo taken Raleigh, NC meeting October 1990
AAFA President 1991



L to R #0425 Nolan David Alford, #0226 H. Harold Alford 1929 - 1995 & Jo. (Mrs. Harold)
Photo taken Jackson, MS meeting October 1991