



Don wearing his Texas flag bowtie!

Photo from Brown's Funeral Service

Earl Don Alford

Apr 16 1945 - Mar 8 2007

AAFA #0361

Earl Don Alford

**April 16, 1945 –
March 9, 2007**

Don Alford, age 61, went to be with the Lord at 5:40 p.m. Thursday, March 8, 2007, in Tyler, TX. He was born in Caney, Oklahoma, on April 16, 1945, the son of Arnold and Lillie Alford. He married the love of his life, Gayla Miller on June 3, 1977. Don graduated from Southeast Oklahoma State University with a Master's degree in Mathematics. He was a former Deacon at Caney Baptist Church in Caney. Don was past master of the Masonic Lodge in Caddo, OK. He enjoyed flying and held a private pilot's license and was also a member of the AOPA. Don taught and coached in Caney, Oklahoma, before becoming a State Farm Insurance Agent in 1977. Don

was promoted to Agency Leadership in 1982 and continued his career with State Farm in Texas. Don was responsible for hiring and developing numerous agents and employees. Don will be remembered for his exceptional integrity, intelligence, and leadership.

Don was a member of the 1st Baptist Church of Sulphur Springs. Don is survived by his wife, Gayla Alford, son Clint Alford and wife Casey of Caney, Okla., daughter Amanda Lawrence and husband Ryan Lawrence of Carthage, Texas, daughter Amy Scott and husband Wade Scott of Hugo, Oklahoma; six grandchildren Cade Scott, Lain Scott, Callie

Lawrence, Ashlyn Lawrence, Tymber Gray, and Nate Scott; brothers Travis Alford and wife Betty Alford, Neal Alford and wife Theresa Alford, Bob Alford and wife Ella Alford, Jack Alford and wife Janice Alford, Carl Alford and wife Vicki Alford, Wallace Alford and wife Vicki Alford and sister Mary Gay and husband Jim Gay.

Don was preceded in death by his parents, Arnold and Lillie Alford, brother Bud Alford, sister Sammy Lee and nephew Phillip Alford.

Services under the Direction of Brown's Funeral Service, Atoka, Oklahoma.

In Loving Memory of



Earl Don Alford

April 16, 1945 ~ March 8, 2007

*God saw you getting tired
And a cure was not to be.
So He put His arms around you
And whispered "Come to me."
With tearful eyes we watched you
And saw you pass away,
And though we loved you dearly,
We could not ask you to stay.
A golden heart stopped beating,
Hands were put to rest.
God touched our hearts
and prove to us,
He only takes the best.*

*Brown's Funeral Service
800 W. 13th St.
Atoka, Oklahoma*

In another article:

Brown's Funeral Service

www.brownsfuneralserviceatokaok.com

Atoka, Atoka Co., OK—
_____ March 2007

NAME: Earl Don Alford, age 61, of Sulphur Springs [Hopkins Co.], Texas and a former Caney area resident.

BORN: April 16, 1945 in the Voca community, Atoka County, OK to Arnold Allen and Lillie Francis (Tigert) Alford.

PASSED AWAY: Thursday, March 8, 2007 at Tyler, TX.

AGE: 61 years 10 months and 22 days.

EDUCATION: Don graduated from Caney High School with Class

of '63. He graduated from Southeastern Oklahoma State University with a Masters degree in Mathematics.

OCCUPATION: Don taught, coached, drove a school bus and was principal at Caney School. He later became associated with State Farm Insurance Company and was the first State Farm agent in Atoka County. He was promoted to agency leadership in 1982 and continued his career with State Farm in Texas. At the time of his death, he was Agency Field Executive and had over 29 years with the company.

Don was a member of the First Baptist Church in Sulphur Springs, Texas as well as a former

member and deacon at Caney Baptist Church.

He was a member and past master of the Caddo Masonic Lodge, a pilot and a member of the Aircraft Owners Pilots Association and loved flying. He was a Certified Life Underwriter.

SURVIVED BY:

WIFE: Gayla Alford of the home at Sulphur Springs, Tx.

CHILDREN: Clint Alford and wife Casey of Atoka, OK.

Amy Scott and husband Wade of Hugo, OK.

Amanda Lawrence and husband Ryan of Carthage, TX.

John¹ 1801 NC + unknown
 John² Madison ALFORD 1826 GA
 + (1) Sarah Cornelia RAINEY
 James³ Henry ALFORD 1857 MS
 + (2) Lue J. MARTIN
 Arnold⁴ Allen ALFORD 1908 OK
 + Lillie Frances TIGERT
 Earl⁵ Don ALFORD 1945 OK

Received 19 March 2007
 from my Uncle James Albert
 Alford of Sulphur Springs, TX
 Peggy Schuster
 AAFA # 0666

DEATHS

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March 9, 2007

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Don was preceded in death by his parents Arnold and Lillie Alford, brother Bud Alford, sister Sammy Lee and nephew Phillip Alford.

Services under the Direction of Brown's Funeral Service, Atoka, Oklahoma.

- Travis
 AAFA # 0374

Peggy: I'm sorry I did not notify you, but I was late hearing about his funeral. I thought it was on Saturday but found out for sure on Monday morning. Our associate pastor called to see if I would like to go with him. We got there at 2:00 + the funeral was 2:30 on the 12th. Love, James.
 They have a family Reunion every year in Caney. I would like to go to the next. Find out from Jack the date.