

# LODWICK H. ALFORD

Captain, U. S. Navy, Retired  
P. O. BOX 742  
SEA ISLAND, GEORGIA 31561

5 March, 1985

Dear Gil:

You must think I have quietly expired or dropped off the deep end. The date of your letter, 15 January, I sailed on my boat for my annual winter cruise. Kay did not go with me this time and forwarded most of my mail. Somehow your letter did not get to me until my return a few days ago. Anyhow my profuse apologies.

And I hasten to add, my renewal dues for About Alford's is enclosed herewith. I hope it is not too late. I don't see how you produce it for so little but I am glad and hope you don't lose money on it.

I AM TREMENDOUSLY impressed (am using our new typewriter for the first time and just learning how to use it) with the chart you sent me showing my family information. Will start to flesh it out immediately. But it will take some time. Please don't hesitate to question any of the info I send. The early history is quite vague and I credit Hugh Edwin with causing me to lean towards William as the father of James Sr. That and also the appearance of a James William Zion in several places indicating that there was a James and a William.

Don't put too much faith in the Worth County History as far as the early Alford's go. The dear old lady who wrote it was one of my teachers and a great historian but she got the information from my father and he got it from W.J. Northen's "Men of Mark", published about the turn of the century. It was a compilation of biographies of successful men who paid to be included. It contained a lot of just plain puffery and unsubstantiated information.

Yes, Charles Sleight and I agree that our common ancestor James Lodwick was Major TANNER. Here is the exact inscription on his old walking stick, "1770 WAKEFIELD JAMES LODWICK ALFORD OR MAJOR TANNER ALFORD". The inscription is on gold band around the cane. Since I was named for him I take it as pretty good authority that Lodwick is the correct spelling for me. I also accept as correct the additional "o" for ole Lodowick Sr. and believe he was named after Lodovico, a character in Shakespeare's Othello.

The directory is marvelous and I can't think of enough praise for you. It took a little while to learn how to use it. But I must say I was disappoint-

ted with so few Alfs with the same common ancestors as myself and Charles Sleight. Hope fully more will turn up later.

No I have no plans for publishing anything and have no objection to your publishing the data I sent or will send.

About getting together, here is a suggestion and an invitation to you and your missy. On 21 April this year we are having our annual Alford Family reunion in Sylvester, Worth County, Georgia and would dearly love for you to come. But if you do I warn you that we will ask you to make a 10-15 min. talk on your operation. I will bring the cane and I think it will be a good opportunity for video taping. Perhaps you could come a few days early to Sea Island and we could drive over to Sylvester on the 21st, about 150 miles. If you fly I could pick you up at Jacksonville or Savannah. If you drive there are good motels in Albany, Cordele, Ashburn and Tifton but not Sylvester. But I hope you will come over here first so we can talk and swap lies about family history.

Again my apologies and I promise to be a better Alf in the future.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mick".