

Obituaries from Alabama

Sent by Robin Alford Sterling,
AAFA #320

ALFRED L. ALFORD

BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD
22 March 1940

Hartselle, Ala.—Funeral rites for Alfred Alford, 73, who died at his home here following an extended illness, were held at Mt. Zion Church with the Rev. Lannie Smallwood and the Rev. DeWitt Prince officiating. Burial was in Mt. Zion Cemetery.

Surviving are three daughters, Mrs. E.A. Harris, Hartselle Route 2; Mrs. Mary Ellis, Nopomis, Ill.; Mrs. Robert Culver, Adamsville, Ala.; two brothers, A.C. Alford, Hartselle; P.M. Alford, Falkville Route 1; his step-mother, Mrs. Minnie Alford, Hartselle; 10 grandchildren, five great grandchildren.

Note from Robin: *The Birmingham News*, 22 Mar 1940, printed an almost identical article except that the age was listed as 72.

AAFA NOTES: Alfred was the son of Ezekiel C. Alford and grandson of Pleasant M. Alford. He was a brother of Alton Calvin Alford who was the grandfather of Betty Alford Dietz AAFA #007.

Mrs. E.A. Harris would have been Hattie Alford born April 1892 who married Edward A. Harris. We have trouble reconciling the names of the other two daughters. According to the censuses of 1900 and 1910 the three daughters were Hattie April 1892, Essie September 1895 and Lilma 1904. Supplementary information from Betty Dietz says that Lilma was born May 23, 1904. In the 1900 census Hattie and Essie were listed and in the 1910

Essie and Lilma were listed. Apparently those were nicknames, partial names, or corruptions of the correct names. Which one was Mary who married Mr. Ellis and which one married Robert Culver? What was the first name of Ellis? No current AAFA Alabama marriage data provides information on these two marriages. The obituary shows he had grandchildren and great grandchildren, yet AAFA has no information on any of these or later descendants.

ALMA DILGER ALFORD

BIRMINGHAM NEWS
16 Feb 1955

Mrs. Alma Dilger Alford, 57, Birmingham business woman, died unexpectedly last night while visiting relatives in Pensacola.

Mrs. Alford died in a Pensacola hospital. She had been visiting three brothers, Lee, Loren and Ray Dilger, in Pensacola.

A resident of 116 Sterrett-ct. Homewood, Mrs. Alford worked in the claims department of Aetna Life Insurance Co. here 30 years.

Surviving are a son, Russell A. Alford, Jr., engineer with Alabama Power Co.; four brothers, Ed Dilger, Liberty, Ill.; Lee, Loren and Ray Dilger, Pensacola; and two sisters, Mrs. Hugh Ellis and Mrs. Cordia Johnston, Los Angeles, Calif.

Funeral arrangements will be announced.

AAFA NOTE: Though living in Alabama these Alford's are from the "Northern Branch" of the family. Alma Dilger Alford was the mother of Russell A. Alford, Jr., AAFA #119. This line is from the major family Benedict Alford born 1619 in England.

BEN ALFORD, JR.

HUNTSVILLE TIMES
4 March 1978

Ben Alford Jr., 55, of 3520 Bermuda Road SW died Friday in a Birmingham hospital. The funeral was today at 10 a.m. at Laughlin-Service Funeral Home chapel, and will be Sunday at 2 p.m. at Wilson and Knight Funeral Home Chapel in Greenwood, Miss.

Burial will be in Odd Fellow Cemetery in Greenwood with Laughlin-Service Funeral Home in charge of local arrangements. Rev. Thomas Walker will officiate.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Lucille H. Alford; a son, Don Alford of Huntsville; a daughter, Miss Carol Alford of Huntsville; two sisters Mrs. Miller Bush of Greenwood, Miss., and Mrs. Ben Mims of Coila, Miss.; a grandchild.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Heart Association.

BOBBIE ALLFORD

GENEVA COUNTY REAPER
14 March 1957

Bobbie Allford, age 23, of Samson Rt. 3, was killed instantly, Saturday afternoon, March 9 about 4:30 on the Samson-Defuniak Springs Highway when he lost control of his car and turned over several times. Bobbie has served two years in the Army and was a member of the 1951 Samson High School football team. Funeral services were held Monday, March 11 at Reese Church with Rev. L.M. West officiating. Pittman Funeral Home of Geneva was in charge.

He is survived by his parents, Mr.

and Mrs. Dewey Allford, Samson Rt. 3, three brothers, Claude, DeFuniak Springs, A.A. and Garland, of Samson Rt. 3, 4 sisters, Mrs. Helen Reidler of Chicago, Ill, Gloria Ann, Brenda Gale and Charlotte Allford all of Samson Rt. 3.

AAFA NOTE: Bobbie was the son of Admiral Dewey Alford whose wife's name is not yet known. Dewey was a descendant of the Richard R. Alford listed in this article.

MRS. J.C. ALFORD

ALABAMA CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE
2 April 1897

The following resolutions were passed by the Fitzpatrick Auxiliary Woman's Missionary Society on the death of Mrs. J.C. Alford, corresponding secretary of our society, who, by the dispensation of an Allwise Providence was called from this world to her bright Heavenly home on February 19th, 1897. Be it resolved.

1. That in the death of our sister this society has lost a true and faithful member, whose place will be difficult to fill, in consequence of her deep piety.

2. That we cherish her memory as one in an eminent degree entitled to the love, esteem and affectionate regard of all; that we endeavor like her to always exercise that true abiding faith that bore her so triumphantly through the dark valley to the beautiful beyond; that we strive to emulate her Christian character, so unobtrusive, yet so beautiful and consistent.

3. That the members of this society do most sincerely sympathize with the bereaved family in the loss of wife, daughter and sister, whose spirit has been caught away from

earth in life's fair glorious morning. When we think of the desolation her death has wrought, we fain would murmur, but "God's ways are not our ways; His thoughts are not our thoughts, and recognizing this potent factor, most humbly bow to the divine will."

4. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Alabama Christian Advocate for publication, and to the family of the deceased; that a page of the minutes whereon they are copied be dedicated "in memoriam" to our departed sister.

Mrs. W.H. Carmichael, Mrs. H.P. Huffman, Mrs. E.D. Grimes. Committee

AAFA NOTE: This is probably Mary Emma (Williams) Alford, whom we show was born 1867 and died in 1897 (no day or month). She was the wife of Julius Caesar Alford, 1855-1942, who was the son of Levin Ellis and Charlotte (Derrick) Alford. Julius and Mary Emma were married Dec 13 1893 and they had a son named Julius Caesar Alford born February 13 1897, so Mary Emma must have died from complications at childbirth. Young Julius lived to be only 19. [Dave Price shows the older Julius C. was James C.] These folks are from the family of William and Mary Ellis Alford (WIL787NC) branch of the family.

LORINE CUMMINGS ALFORD

BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD
Monday, 9 April 1990

Funeral for Mrs. Lorine Cummings Alford, 85, Birmingham, who died Thursday [April 5], will be 11 a.m. today, Ridout's Roebuck Chapel, burial Forest Hill Cemetery. Member Woodlawn United Methodist Church. Survivors: son, Charles A. Alford, Jr., Birmingham; brother,

James Lewis Cummings, California.

LOUANA JANE MITCHELLALFORD

ALABAMA JOURNAL
16 September 1953

The funeral for Mrs. Louana Jane Alford who died Monday was held from White Chapel today at 2 p.m. with the Rev. Clyde Kinniard officiating. Burial was in Greenwood Cemetery. Pallbearers were J.W. Turnipseed, Curtis Murphy, Marris Dees, Lucian Dees, James Dees and George Jester.

AAFA NOTE: Louann Jane Mitchell, born September 1867, was the wife of Judge Hilliard Alford. He was born April 7, 1866 and they married January 10, 1886 in Montgomery County, AL. Judge died October 11, 1950. They were the grandparents of Arthur Lee Dees, Jr., AAFA #770. This is from the branch of William Alford and Mary Ellis, WIL787NC.

LUCIOUS "PETE" ALFORD

MOBILE PRESS
21 April 1948

Mr. Lucious (Pete) Alford—Native of Citronelle, Ala., and a resident of Mobile for the past 35 years, died Tuesday morning, April 20, 1948, at 7:10 o'clock. He is survived by three sisters, Mrs. C.L. (Mae) Lawson, Tampa, Fla.; Mrs. Lillie Oswald, Mobile; Mrs. Mattie Mayles, Mobile; nieces, nephews and other relatives. Funeral services will be held from the chapel of Riggins Mortuary Thursday afternoon, April 22, 1948 at 2:30 o'clock.

Dr. E.L. Pennington, pastor of St. John's Episcopal Church will officiate. Interment will be in Magnolia Cem-

ctery. Arrangement by Higgins Mortuary, Mobile.

AAFA NOTES: We are very interested in the family of Lucious Alford because there is a possibility that they are part of the family of JoLynn Alford Long, AAFA #718. In 1880, Beaver Meadow, Mobile County, AL we have the family of an S.E. Alford (male) born about 1828 in South Carolina. Included in the family as the oldest child was a Lizzie Alford born about 1860 in Alabama. Lizzie had a sister Francis 16, and brothers John 15, George 10, Walter 9, and Julius 7. S.E. Alford's family included a 9 month old granddaughter, Lilly Alford. Was Lizzie really a daughter-in-law? Was Lilly her daughter? Who was her husband? If she was not a daughter-in-law then she must have married soon after the 1880 census and began having the children listed earlier. The children were all named Alford. Did Lizzie Alford marry an Alford?

The only family in 1870 Mobile County that would stand a chance of being this family is a John Alford born about 1822 with wife Fannie. The other females in the family were Puss 14, Mary 12, Nancy 10, Sarah 1 and Julia 4 months. Males were Ephraim 8, John 4, and Alfred 3. Is this the same family? We have not found this family in the older (non-soundex) portion of the 1880 census, and they were not in the soundex. JoLynn Long is a descendant of an Ephraim Alford, but this one was not born early enough to be hers.

The only Alford family in Mobile County in 1860 is that of "Peachman Alfred" who is the ancestor of Lucille Mehrkam, AAFA #32. If John and Fannie's family were in the 1860 Alabama census, we have been unable to find them.

In the 1900 census of Citronelle, Mobile County, Alabama we find 45 year old Lizzie Alford born Oct 1854

in Virginia. Included in the family were three sons and two daughters: Lucius Jan 1883, Cleveland Feb 1885, Marsina Jan 1888; Annie M. Mar 1891 and Mattie E. May 1895. In 1910 they were listed in Citronelle as Lizzie 50 VA, Lucscius 24 AL, May 18 AL (who apparently married a Lawson from the obit), and Mattie 13 AL (who must have married a Mayles.) Annie M. of 1900 appears to be the May of 1910. In 1920 Lizzie 50 born AL this time, and son Lucius 37 lived at 163 Monroe in Mobile.

The obit says there were three sisters, and the only way the census supports this (including the names of the sisters) is if the 9-month-old Lilly in 1880 is his eldest sister and she was married by 1900 (to an Oswald). Is the S.E. Alford in 1880 identical to Ephraim Alford, who is JoLynn's ancestor and fought in the Mexican War? His first wife was named Fanny and died in 1878. Is she the Fannie who was married to "John" in 1870? Was "John" really S.E. or Ephraim??

MAMIE ELIZABETH RHEAMES ALFORD

[Name of newspaper not listed; date on frame is 12 Oct 1956]

Mrs. Mamie Rheames Alford 86, of 1405 21st-wy, S, died yesterday at her home. A native of Louisiana, she was the widow of William Miriam [sic—listed as "Mirah" in his obituary] Alford. Surviving are two sons, Charles B. Alford and Percy Alford of Chicago. Funeral services were held at the Thomas Funeral Home at Ponchatoula, La.

AAFA NOTE: Mary Elizabeth Rheams was born September 20, 1870 in Louisiana. She and William were married February 22, 1894 in Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana.

William was born December 13. His obituary is printed later in this article. The son, Charles "B." Alford, was actually Charles Dalma Alford. He was the father of AAFA member #072 Dr. C.D. "Bo" Alford of Hammond, LA who is the father of member #033 Anne Alford Flippin of Brandon, MS.

MOSE M. ALFORD

GENEVA COUNTY REAPER
 9 Nov 1950

Funeral services were held on Sunday at 2 p.m. for Mose M. Alford, age 84, a native of Coffee County but a resident of Geneva County for the past several years.

He died at the family residence Saturday following a short illness.

The funeral services was held at Liberty Chapel Church with Rev. J.F. Powell of Samson officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery with Pittman Funeral Home of Geneva in charge of arrangements.

He is survived by six daughters, Mrs. Mattie Johnson of Darlington, Fla; Mrs. Ola Warren and Mrs. Anna Worn of Samson, Mrs. Ida Kilcrease of Chancellor and Mrs. Anna Jones Chancellor and Mrs. Ruby Collins, both of Bradenton, Fla.; 18 grandchildren, 37 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

AAFA NOTE: It is probable that Mose was a brother of Richard R. Alford whose obituary if printed later in this article.

O.B. ALFORD

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER
 3 May 1940

The funeral for O.B. Alford will be held from White Chapel today at 10 a.m. with the Rev. O.C. Lloyd officiating. The body will be sent

through the country to Vernledge, near Luverne, for burial.

AAFA NOTE: This is undoubtedly Obadiah "Tobe" Alford. A son of Henry Dortch and Martha Jane (Walker) Alford, Obadiah was born Dec 18 1867 in Montgomery County, AL. He married Margaret Jane Saunders Dec 20 1894. They had 9 children including Hattie Idell Alford who married Kimmey Wiggins. They were the ancestors of Kimberly Wiggins Beardsley, AAFA #105. Obadiah died April 30 1940. From the family branch William and Mary Ellis Alford (WIL787NC)

ONA SHIELDS ALFORD

ALABAMA JOURNAL
10 June 1943

Mrs. Ona Alford, 57, died late last night at her home in Deatsville. The funeral will be held at 2:30 Friday from Coosa River Church in Elmore County with the Rev. John Coggins and the Rev. Mr. Lawrence officiating. Interment will be in the church yard cemetery, White Chapel in charge. Surviving are her husband, A.L. Alford; two daughters, Mrs. H.H. Carpenter, Mrs. T.R. Naile, Montgomery; six brothers, W.T. Shields, Deatsville; Brewster Shields, Ruston, La; Hugh and Dan Shields, Chaudrant, La.; Wallace Shields, New Orleans, and Claud Shields, Shreveport, La.; two sisters, Mrs. Cack Crosby, Chaudrant; Mrs. Sam Robbins, Monroe, La.; one granddaughter, Ruth Elaine Carpenter, Montgomery.

AAFA NOTE: Ona was the wife of Andrew L. Alford who was born about 1885 in Alabama. Deatsville, of course, is in Elmore County. They were enumerated there in the 1910 census. We need help in learning more about this family. He was not old enough for us to find in 1880 and

we have been unable to find him in 1920 census or elsewhere.

REUBIN M. ALFORD

GENEVA COUNTY REAPER
27 Oct 1966

Mr. Reubin M. Alford, age 58 of Leesburg, Florida and formerly of Geneva, died Tuesday morning in Leesburg, Florida. Funeral Services were in the New Home Baptist Church at 3 p.m. Friday with Rev. Columbus Thames officiating. Burial was in the Church Cemetery with Pittman Funeral Home of Geneva directing. He is survived by his wife - Mrs. Reecie Alford of Leesburg, Florida, 2 daughters - Mrs. Mary Lawrence of Leesburg, Fla., and Mrs. Louise Owens of Rt. 2, Geneva, - 2 sons - Reubin Ollie Alford of Geneva, and Ralph Lane of Baltimore, Maryland. One brother - Leborn Alford of Leesburg, Florida, 2 [sic] sisters - Mrs. Roxie Owens of Haines City, Florida, and Mrs. Ella Ryals of Coffee Springs, and Mrs. Mellissa Ward of Dothan.

AAFA NOTE: Reubin was the son of Richard McDaniel "Bink" and Mary E. Alford. He was from the Henry Alford (b. 1815) branch of the family.

RICHARD R. ALFORD

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER
22 Jan 1929

Samson, Ala., Jan. 21—(Special)—R.R. Alford, 86, died at the home of his son, "Bink" Alford, six miles east of here Saturday night [January 19]. "Uncle Rich" as he was familiarly known, was a Confederate Veteran and a charter member of the local Camp No. 1660. He entered the Confederate service at Guinea Station, Virginia, in Sept., 1862. He was twice wounded. He surrendered with General Lee at

Appomattox. When the order to "stack arms" came on that never to be forgotten day, "Uncle Rich" was the only member left of his gallant company, "K," Fifth Alabama Infantry. He stood his gun beside a small tree, took a last look at his beloved commander and began his journey back to his beloved Alabama, where he has lived since, an honored and respected citizen.

He is survived by four sons and one daughter, J.H., Ed and Bink Alford, of Samson, T.M. Alford, of Mobile and Mrs. Monroe Griggs, of Euchee Valley, Fla., besides numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. Interment will be at Piney Grove Cemetery, Monday morning, beside his wife, who preceded him to the grave many years ago.

AAFA NOTE: Richard R Alford was born January 26, 1843. He married (1) Rebecca A. Phillips (2) Nancy S. Duncan and (3) Sarah "Sallie" Phillips. He was from the Henry Alford (born 1815) branch of the family. He was the grandfather of Reubin Alford mentioned above.

TEMPTATION "TEMPIE" LANGFORD ALFORD

SAMSON LEDGER
11 Aug 1935 [last digit of year unclear]

Mrs. Tempie Alford of Gaskin, Fla., died Friday night, August 5. She had lived in this section all her life. She leaves nine children, as follows: Mrs. Kate Dean, Mrs. Beall Allbriton, Mrs. Donie Dukes, Mrs. Mattie Warren, Mrs. Rose Dukes; S. Alford of Rome, Ga., W.T. Alford of Lakeland, Fla.; L.G. Alford of Gaskin, Fla. and B.D. Alford of Ponce de Leon, Fla; also one brother, and six sisters and a host of grand and great grandchildren. The funeral was conducted by Rev. C.T. Thames with burial in Limestone cemetery.

AAFA NOTE: Temptation Langford was born 1872, the wife of Francis Marion Alford who was from the Turner Alford (b. 1800 NC) branch of the family. AAFA has information on the descendants of four of the children: Mattie Alford Warren, Bondin Dempsey Alford, Levi G. "Gyps" Alford, and Kate Dean.

WALTER FRANKLIN ALFORD

ALABAMA JOURNAL
19 Oct 1956

Holtville—ALFORD, Walter Franklin, 69, died at his home Tuesday morning. Survivors include a son, Billy Alford, Holtville; six brothers, A.L. and J.A. Alford, Holtville; O.W. Alford, Wetumpka; Will Alford, Macon, Ga., and Roy and Emmett Alford, Chisholm; and a sister Mrs. Mamie Hudson, Gray, Ga. Funeral services were at 11 a.m. today from the Shoal Creek Baptist Church with the Rev. David H. Bentley officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery with Evans Funeral Home of Wetumpka directing.

WALTER ROSS ALFORD

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER
3 Feb 1938

Selma, Ala., Feb. 2—(Special)—Walter Ross Alford, prominent retired businessman of Camden, died at a hospital here tonight at 8:15 o'clock. He was 79 years old.

Mr. Alford had been in declining health for several months. His condition became acutely worse in the past few days.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Julia F. Alford; a son, Walter Ross Alford, Jr., of Camden; four [sic] daughters, Mrs. L.L. McConnell, of Mangham, La.; Mrs. W.H. Hybart and Mrs. A.C. Carlton, of Camden.

Funeral arrangements will be announced by Breslin-Service. Burial will be at Canton Bend.

AAFA NOTE: Walter married Julia E. Fuller Nov 15, 1881 in Wilcox County. His family has been the prominent Alford family in Wilcox County since before 1850. His father was William T. Alford of South Carolina and his mother Eliza, was from Virginia. We are not able to unravel the daughters. We have no marriage data from Wilcox County and we cannot find the family in the 1900 census. In 1910 he has 26 year old daughter Ida Lyles with them and in 1920 had 29 year old Maggie Cook. Those don't fit the names in the obituary. In both 1910 and 1920 there was a 49/59 year old Dora Primm who was a sister-in-law in 1910 and sister in 1920. There were some females' names (sisters) in some of the earlier censuses that were not legible.

WILLIAM ANSLEY ALFORD

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER
9 June 1935

Dothan, Ala., June 8.—(Special)—William Ansley Alford, 45, former Coast Line Railroad employee at Montgomery, died at his home here at 9 o'clock tonight. Mr. Alford moved here from Montgomery about six months ago. Surviving are his widow, one sister, Mrs. Jack Cook, of Montgomery, and two brothers, J.A., of Dothan, and L.H., of Chattahoochee, Fla. The funeral will be held at Greenwood Cemetery in Montgomery at 3:30 p.m. tomorrow. Pallbearers will be employees of the Coast Line Railroad.

AAFA NOTE: This one goes back to the ole war horse, Julius C. Alford. He was the son of Lodwick Herin Alford and married Claudia Bartle. He was

born October 3, 1889. His sister, Mrs. Jack Cook, was Cora Connell Alford. Brother L.H. was Lodwick Herin Alford and J.A. was probably Albert Augustus Alford.

WILLIAM J. ALFORD

[unknown Montgomery newspaper, date written on frame is 23 Feb 1928]

News of the death of William J. Alford, Spanish-American war Veteran in Arkansas was received yesterday by Chief of Police Taylor. Inquiries revealed he was formerly of Company "D" Second Regiment, Alabama Volunteers which formed and demobilized in Montgomery. He was buried by the American Legion Post at Smackover, Ark. Records show that he enlisted in Mobile on May 6, 1898 and also discharged Oct. 21, in the same year. During his career he served under Col. Vincent E. Elmore, of this city.

AAFA NOTE: AAFA has considerable information on several William J. Alfords of Alabama whose age would fit service in the army in 1898; however, the place and/or dates of death of all those known do not fit 1928 and Arkansas. A request has been sent to the National Archives for his military record. Maybe one of the Arkansas members can see what they can learn from the authorities or the American Legion in Smackover (Union County) Arkansas. He may have been there for the big oil boom that was in swing at that time.

WILLIAM J. ALFORD

BIRMINGHAM NEWS
28 Aug 1941

Gadsden, Ala.—Funeral services for William J. Alford, 79, who died at the home of his son, C.W. Alford, on Gadsden Route 3 Thursday, was held

at the New Bethel Church at 2 p.m. Friday with the Rev. T.N. Chandler officiating.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Ann Alford, of Lawrenceburg, Tenn.; three sons, C.M. and H.T. Alford of Gadsden Route 3, and S.J. Alford, of Glencoe. Two brothers, Allen Alford, of Piedmont, and Forrest Alford, of Gallant, also survive.

AAFA NOTE: He was the son of Jefferson Alford and Nancy Gullede. Widow, Ann, was his second wife, Sarah Ann Bone. Son C.M. was Charles Montgomery, H.T. was Hardeman Talmadge and S.J. was Scott Junior. These folks are all descendants of Isham Alford and his son Baldy Alford. They are relatives of several AAFA members in northern Alabama including AAFA Board member Paul Alford.

WILLIAM MIRAH ALFORD

BIRMINGHAM NEWS
21 Nov 1944

William Mirah Alford, age 75, of 1158 11th Ave., S., passed away at the residence Monday p.m. He is survived by the widow, Mrs. Mamie Rheams Alford, of B'ham; 2 sons, William Percy Alford, of Atlanta, Ga.; Chas. D. Alford, of B'ham; 2 brothers, L.T. Alford, of Ponchatoula, La.; John Alford, of Franklin, La.; one sister, Mrs. Eula Gray, of Hattiesburg, Miss. Remains will be sent to Ponchatoula, La., Tuesday p.m. by Ridout's Brown-Service for funeral services and interment.

AAFA NOTE: William M. Alford is the son of John Milton Alford and Margaret Tyler. See his wife Mamie Elizabeth Rheames Alford's obituary printed earlier in this article. The brother "L.T." was Lucius Tyler, and

brother John was John Milton Alford. These folks trace their ancestry back to Pike County, MS and William Alford, the son of Jacob Alford and Frankie Seaborn, who married Eveline Ginn.

WILLIE LAURA ALFORD

ALABAMA JOURNAL
8 June 1951

Alford, Mrs. Willie Laura, 66, died in a Montgomery hospital Wednesday. Survivors include the widower, E.A. Alford; two sons, J.A. and C. Alford, all of Luverne; two brothers, S.T., Troy, and C.J. Ivey, all of Montgomery, and a sister, Mrs. B.A. Alford, Montgomery. Funeral services will be held Friday at 4 p.m. from the Vernledge Church with the Rev. McCurdy officiating. Burial in the church cemetery. Turner Funeral Home in charge.

AAFA NOTES: Looking for a "Laura W." who married E.A. Alford we find the marriage record of "Earkeil" A. Alford and Laura W. Willis in Montgomery County, Book 12, page 18, for December 12 1907. Following that back to census data we find "Earkul" Alford, born Dec, 1885, son of James W. (Wesley or Wiley) Alford and Florence in 1900 Montgomery County Census. Information from Lillian Alford Duffell, probably now deceased, shows that James Wiley Alford married Florence E. Windham and their first son was Earkeil A. Alford who married Laura W. Willis. A very poor quality 1910 census extract of Montgomery County shows "Enkerd" Alford, 24 with wife Laura W. and 1 year old son Willie L. Alford. The 1920 census of Crenshaw County shows "Earkull" A. Alford and Laura W. with sons Leroy W. 11, Clenie C. 9, and Aubrey 9. It is assumed that Leroy was really Willie Leroy, and that Clenie and Aubrey were the sons

West Indies Alfords

An example of how one's research may help another is this story that Milton Folds, AAFA #49, wrote to Gil Alford on July 21, 1996.

I made one of my rare visits of 1996 to the Georgia Archives yesterday and while searching some of my family lines in South Carolina publications, I ran across Barbara R. Langdon's series: SOUTH CAROLINA MARRIAGES, VOLUME 3, 1671-1791, and found the following Alford tidbit that may not have come to your attention: "... Alford, Mary to Capt. John Garney, SP4, pages 391-392, 1702, (widow of Joseph Alford of Barbados, her first husband).." SP4 refers to Records of The Secretary of The Province, 1704-1709, Vol. D.

Little did Milton know that member Michael B. Alford AAFA #495 of Morehead, NC has long had a theory that his South Carolina Alfords came from the West Indies! ♦

J.A. and C. who survived Mrs. Alford.

Also in Crenshaw county for census that year were Boland Alford and his wife, Maggie. Note that Mrs. Alford had a sister named Mrs. B.A. Alford and brothers named S.T. Troy and C.J. Ivey—but she was named "Willis." AAFA marriage data shows that B.A. (Bolling A.) Alford married Maggie Ivey December 19, 1906 in Montgomery County, Book 12, page 382. B.A. was previously married to Birdie Tobias on December 18, 1901—Book 11, page 252. Bolling A. Alford and Earkeil (or whatever) Alford were first cousins. What is the key to the explanation that Maggie Ivey and Laura W. Willis were sisters? Was Laura an Ivey who first married a Willis, or did they have different fathers?? ♦