

Typed transcription of the handwritten note from Ruth Alford Bottoms, daughter of Harry L. Alford

By Diane Holmes Hunt, AAFA 1081, granddaughter of Harry L. Alford

Mother's writing, transcribed:

"I surely enjoyed the biography you sent me about daddy and appreciate your thoughtfulness! I'm reading it over and there are alot of mistakes in it. Here goes! Daddy was born in 1875 not 1883. All my growing up I remember him kidding mom about being 4 years older than she - her birthday was Feb. 24, 1879. They were married Oct 1, 1902. I have their wedding invitation in my album. Another thing that would have been nice in the article about dad was that in 1910 the famous lady composer Carrie Jacobs Bond came to dad's office on Clark St. and had him make the first piano arr. of her world renowned ""mani" - "I love you truly" - sung at many weddings "Just a wearying for you" and "The End of a Perfect Day" - then daddy had her go to N.Y. and have them published and these arrangements he made really started him in music business, and he became known and the rest is history. The vaudeville gal he arranged for was Eva Tanguay and today she'd be considered a ROCK STAR - ha! Her song was "I don't care - I don't care" and it was a big hit - believe me. Daddy's "Hungry Five in Spain" was a mild success but not like "Hungry Five in GY" - Dad was really gung-ho percussion and many times I heard him say - "end the "?" with a rally of the drum, gang of the symbol - that will wake them up" - isn't that a cute remark?

My - how you'd love knowing him, Di - As the time goes on my memories of him get deeper and deeper - and you'd have loved mom, too - Such wonderful parents I had - write soon -

Much love - Mom"

Diane's note: Mother wrote like she talked, very chatty. I imagine she learned that from her very social parents. This was a personal letter and wouldn't pass editorial scrutiny but is laced with pride and love for him.