



John Hal Alford

April 15, 1932 - March 24, 2010

Services were 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 28, at Buffalo United Methodist Church. Arrangements were under the direction of Montgomery-Viets Funeral Home of Buffalo. Memorials may be made to the John Alford Central High Math Scholarship.

Visitation was 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday, March 27, at the funeral home.

Click image to enlarge John Hal Alford was born April 15, 1932, in Dallas County, the youngest son of J. Homer and Grace (Marsh) Alford. He died March 24, 2010, at St. John's Hospital, Springfield, after a recent surgery and a long battle with several chronic health issues.

He graduated from Buffalo High School in 1950, and from Southwest Missouri State Teacher's College in 1954. He received his master's degree from the University of Missouri in 1963.

He was united in marriage with Jo Ann Neill on Nov. 26, 1953, and to this enduring union two daughters were born.

He was a devoted, loving husband, father and grandfather. He took great pleasure in supporting his family in whatever activities they pursued. He always put their needs and wishes ahead of his own. They never doubted his love for them. Even as his health declined, he was overjoyed and uplifted by the arrival of his wonderful granddaughter.

He was a teacher not only by profession, but also in his heart. He taught high school for 47 years, with 10 of them at Buffalo High and 37 at Central High in

Springfield. He served two terms as president of the Springfield Education Association. His dedication to Central High was well-known. He was one of the School's greatest proponents. On many occasions he helped lead the movement to maintain Central's identity and mission.

Survivors include his loving wife of 56 years, Jo Ann; two daughters: Jan Alford, Buffalo, and Dr. Julie Alford, Springfield; his precious granddaughter, Jamie Lynn Alford, Springfield; his brother, Rex Alford, Houston, Texas; his sister, Irene Greene, Largo, Fla.; his sister-in-law, Janice and husband, Sam Alexander, Blue Springs; his brother-in-law, Jerry and wife, Carol Neill, Lake Quivera, Kan.; several nieces and nephews; and a host of other family and friends who will truly miss him.

Tribute Wall



“ *John Hal Alford*

October 09, 2023 at 12:27 PM



“ *John Hal Alford*

October 09, 2023 at 04:09 AM



“ *John Hal Alford*

October 05, 2023 at 11:14 PM



“ *John Hal Alford*

October 05, 2023 at 05:41 PM



“ *John Hal Alford*

December 20, 2022 at 10:20 AM

JT

“ *Mr. Alford was the best teacher I ever had. He cared about me. I don't know why. He's a better man than I ever will be. We had an... Issue. He put me in my place, and made me think about my life and where I was going.*

Long story short, I simply thought of him tonight, as I often do, out of the blue. So I googled him. I just wanted to thank him if I could find him. He probably had no clue what he meant to me as a H.S. student and as a person. He may not have even remembered me, but I think he did. I

Although he's gone, I still want to say, "Thank you, Mr. Alford". You were right. I did it. Thank you!

Johnathan Taylor - June 04, 2015 at 11:37 PM