

**THIS YEAR'S POSTHUMOUS LIVING LEGEND RECIPIENT WAS A TOTALLY DEDICATED AVIATION BOATSWAIN MATE WITH OVER 26 YEARS OF PROFESSIONAL AND DEDICATED SERVICE TO OUR NAVY AND COUNTRY. HE ENTERED THE NAVY IN 1960 AND AFTER COMPLETING BOOT CAMP, HE REPORTED TO NAVAL AUXILIARY AIR STATION, FALLON NEVADA. AFTER A SHORT TOUR AT FALLON HE REPORTED ABOARD THE USS KITTY HAWK (CV-63) IN NOVEMBER 1961. ADVANCING TO ABH3. RECEIVED A COMMANDING OFFICERS LETTER OF COMMENDATION. HIS FOLLOW ON ASSIGNMENTS INCLUDED A SHORT STAY AT NAVAL STATION SAN DIEGO. AFTER REENLISTING IT WAS BACK TO USS KITTY HAWK (CV-63), ADVANCING TO ABH2. RECEIVED A NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL FOR DURING THIS TOUR. FOLLOWED BY USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64) AS FLY TWO AND THREE PETTY OFFICER AND HE RECEIVED A NAVY COMMENDATION MEDAL AND COMMANDER, SEVENTH FLEET COMMENDATION. THEN TO NAVAL AIR STATION MEMPHIS IN 1970. UPON DEPARTURE FROM MEMPHIS IT WAS BACK TO SEA, THIS TIME TO THE USS MIDWAY (CV-41) AS AN**

**ABH2. UPON DEPARTURE FROM USS MIDWAY, HE DID A SHORT TEMPORARY TOUR ABOARD USS CLEVELAND (LPD-7) WHILE AWAITING TRANSFER TO USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH-11). AFTER NEW ORLEANS IT WAS ON TO USS RANGER (CV-61) AND BECAME AN ABH1 ON 16 AUGUST 1975. HE FINALLY MADE IT BACK ASHORE WITH A TOUR AT NAVAL AIR STATION NORTH ISLAND, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. AFTER SHORE DUTY THIS TIME IT WAS BACK TO SEA TO USS KITTY HAWK AND USS RANGER. WHILE ON KITTY HAWK, HE WAS COMMENDED FOR SAVING AN F-14 AIRCRAFT AND ITS CREW FOLLOWING THIS OUR RECIPIENT WENT TO NAVAL STATION SAN DIEGO THEN TO SECURITY AT NAS MIRAMAR. AFTER MIRAMAR IT WAS BACK TO RANGER, AS FLIGHT DECK CHIEF. HE RECEIVED A SECOND NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL FOR HIS QUICK REACTION TO A BURNING S-3 AIRCRAFT, PUTTING THE FIRE OUT SAVING THE AIRCRAFT, POSSIBLE FIRE TO OTHER AIRCRAFT AND THE SHIP AND POSSIBLE SUBSEQUENT LOSS OF LIFE WHILE ON BOARD. AND FOLLOWING A SUCCESSFUL TOUR WAS ON TO NAS MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI. AFTER NAS MERIDIAN, IT WAS BACK TO**

**SEA AGAIN, THIS TIME TO USS CARL VINSON (CVN-70) IN  
ALAMEDA, CA. AFTER CARL VINSON HE WAS TRANSFERRED  
TO NAS ALAMEDA AND FINALLY RETIREMENT.**

**SOME OF HIS FORMER SHIPMATES DESCRIBE HIM AS  
FOLLOWS:**

**THE MOST INTIMIDATING STRUCTURE ON THE FLIGHT  
DECK.....**

**WHILE HIS STATURE IS ENORMOUS, IT WAS SMALL IN  
COMPARISON TO HIS HEART.....**

**HE LIVED AND BREATHED THE AB COMMUNITY.**

**IF YOU WERE AN AB AND IN TROUBLE, HE WAS THERE FOR  
YOU.**

**IF YOU WERE AN AB WITH NO PLACE TO GO FOR  
THANKSGIVING OR CHRISTMAS, HIS HOUSE WAS OPEN FOR  
YOU. OF COURSE, HIS WIFE DID THE COOKING AND  
CLEANING AND HE, AS AN ABH, DIRECTED HER OPERATION.**

**HE WAS AN EXPERT ON A FLIGHT DECK. HE GUIDED MANY  
OF YOU IN THE DIRECTION THAT LED TO YOU BECOMING  
LDO'S AND WARRANTS.**

**HE GOT THE JOB DONE. SOME PEOPLE DIDN'T LIKE THE  
WAY HE DID HIS JOB, BUT DO IT HE DID.**

**HIS HARD WORK HAS MADE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR AB  
COMMUNITY IN THE PAST, PRESENT AND TOWARDS THE  
FUTURE OF THE AVIATION BOATSWAINS MATE HISTORY.**

**TONIGHT WE TAKE GREAT PLEASURE IN CELEBRATING THE**

**LIFE AND RECOGNIZING OF ONE OF OUR VERY OWN, WHO  
DID HIS DUTY ABOVE AND BEYOND. HE WENT TO JOIN THE  
HEAVENLY FLIGHT DECK CREW WITH HIS FELLOW  
DEPARTED AB'S AND THE BIG AB IN THE SKY IN 2002.  
HERE TO ACCEPT THIS AWARD ARE HIS DAUGHTERS, PARIS  
AND KHALENE AND HIS MOST GRACIOUS WIFE, GINGER AND  
TODAY IS GINGER'S BIRTHDAY.**

**PLEASE STAND AND RECOGNIZE**

**OUR POSTHUMOUS LIVING LEGEND FOR 2004 -----**

**ABHC RETIRED DECEASED  
DONALD ARTHUR "TINY" ALEXANDER**