



## Alan Rex Riggs, Sr.

October 6, 1942 - March 26, 2008

Heaven became a happier place when Al Riggs, aka "Big Al" joined the ranks on 3-20-08. We're all quite sure he's up there telling them how to do it! Al was born 10-6-42 in Beaumont, Texas. He lead a wild, illustrious life. He is a former Navy Seal and Vietnam POW. He has been a member of AA (in good standing) since 8-3-71. In the intervening years, he has helped, loved, nurtured, and annoyed countless thousands upon thousands of God's kids. He was famous for his overalls, loud booming voice, and generous smiles. He had a unique way of letting people know just what their deficiencies were (ha ha). Al was an absolutely wonderful story-teller, and we will especially miss his hamburger and bear stories! Al is survived by his beloved wife Geanie Riggs; daughter Barbara Wilkes, grandchildren Chase & Krista; son Alan Riggs, daughter-in-law Christina, grandchildren Amber, Jerod, McKenzie, Jacob, Haley & Ashley; son Donald Schlesinger, daughter-in-law Valerie, grandchildren Kelsey & Jake; daughter Gail Warren and son-in-law Thad; brothers Bob Miller, Tim Riggs & Emil Tilitzki Jr.; scores of other relatives; best friend & sponsor Jesse Catching; and dozens of "surrogate children" and more loved ones than you could ever imagine... Services will be held Wednesday, March 26, 2008 at 10:15 am in the Chapel of Houston National Cemetery, 10410 Veterans Memorial Dr., Houston, TX 77038 (281) 447-8686; with interment to follow. A memorial service at the Bay Area Club in League City from 1pm to 4pm on Saturday, 3-29-08 Tel: (281) 332-1057. Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at [www.shmf](http://www.shmf)

h.com.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Alan Rex Riggs, Sr.*

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November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Dear Gail and family: Our thoughts and prayers are with you and yours. May the memories forever bring you smiles and joy. Love, Paula and family*

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**Paula Farris Ward** - March 26, 2008 at 12:39 PM



“ *I lived in Alvin when I met Al. I heard him tell his story in 1981 when I only had a few months of sobriety. Al shared that he was afraid when he first sobered up. This stunned me because I thought I was scared because I am small in stature & never really learned how to fight. I had heard of some of Big Al's escapades & it amazed me that a man of his size could be afraid & admit it openly. In my recovery I discovered that my fear was based on the fact that I did not have a spiritual anchor. Over these past 27 years my relationship with God has grown & although I still feel fear at times it no longer paralyzes me. Thank you Big Al. God bless the family. In God's love, Alan Daggett*

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**Alan Daggett** - March 25, 2008 at 07:37 PM

SA

“ Big Al was my stepdad. He came into my life when I was 10 years old, a year after my dad died of cancer. I told him I would never call him Daddy. But I did. He loved me & he took on the responsibility of raising me & my 3 sisters & brother with my mom. Mom & Al had my baby brother, Alan & my baby sister, Barbara. We had a great big family, 7 kids in all, my mom and my granny lived with us also. Although Mom & Al didn't stay married and we had alot of hard times, I will always be grateful to Al for being a father to me when I needed one so badly. He & my mom came to my basketball games, helped chaparone my field trips, and when I grew up, he set an example for me in 12 Step Recovery so that I could live sober and free too. Big Al, help my husband, Mike take care of my daughter, Dawn. Bring her to that Big Meeting in the sky with you. Help her daddy take care of my baby girl. I love you.

Sharon

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**Sharon Arnold** - March 25, 2008 at 05:24 PM

LR

“ Barbara and Alan, I was very sorry to read about your dad's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. May you know God's presence and comfort during your time of loss and healing. Blessings, Laretta Robinson

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**Laretta (Vignone) Robinson** - March 25, 2008 at 02:58 PM

JH

“ a friend i will never forget.... Al was my next door neighbor he would allways come up the street and take me fishing anywere i would like to go. me and al and my uncle george spent many times together at his house and at different places. i will never forget the day he called me and asked me to come to the house and help him unload an old jewelers desk and when we did he gave me a bunch of little jeweler tools that they use to make jewlery. Big Al was awsome and was very nice to me, and also when he wanted me to come down to the house all he would have to do is yell, because his loud voice carried for miles, i allways remember Al as my friend, and also as my family he was such a great person and im going to miss him driving by my house everyday honking his horn Al rest in peace buddy you will be greatlly missed

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**Jonathan Harrelson** - March 25, 2008 at 09:09 AM

CP

“ Geanie,

Melanie and I are so sorry for your loss. Al touched so many lives and he will certainly be missed. I had the pleasure of hearing him speak many times and sitting with him on the Santa Fe Council, where he tirelessly gave of his time and shared his wisdom. He cofounded the Santa Fe group with Jesse, and the Santa Fe group saved my life, as it has countless others. I know everyone in the program applauds you for loaning him to so many, and for your perpetual support and loving spirit. There are no other words that I can say except that we love you and may Christ our Lord be with you and your beautiful family.

Respectfully yours,

Carey and Melanie Pugh  
Santa Fe, Texas

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**Carey Pugh** - March 24, 2008 at 11:10 PM

KE

“ Aunt Geanie know that my thoughts are with you. Ever since I was a young kid Uncle Al has always been one of my favorites. I will always think highly of him and he will always be on top in my mind.  
Your nephew Kendall Cole Riggs

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**Kendall** - March 24, 2008 at 07:54 PM

MC

“ Geanie, I cannot believe that on the same day we would call y'all to see if you and Big Al wanted to come watch Kirby play baseball in Huntsville, would be the same day Al would go be with Jesus. We know "his seat at the game" was much better. The first day of spring and Easter weekend: what a beautiful time to go home to the Father and be resurrected with Jesus! Still, what a shock. May God surround you with His peace and comfort. Our prayers are with you and family. Lots of love, George, Mona, Kirby, Olivia and Alana

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**Mona Cantalamessa** - March 23, 2008 at 10:20 PM