



Captain Monroe K. Alexander NMSP

May 8, 1928 - January 23, 2015

Monroe K. Alexander, 86 of Albuquerque, passed away on Friday, January 23, 2015. Monroe was born on May 8, 1928 in a homestead dugout in the Seneca community, north of Clayton, NM, the second of five children to Clarence R. and Ruth M. (Salsman) Alexander. He was an honors graduate of Clayton High School and began his career in law enforcement as a fingerprint technician with the FBI in Washington DC in 1947 and later for the New Mexico State Police in Santa Fe. He served in the US Army as an MP at Fort Sill, OK from 1950-1952. After his military service, he returned to Santa Fe where in October 1953 he was commissioned as a Patrolman with the New Mexico State Police where he enjoyed an honorable and distinguished career serving the people of New Mexico until his retirement as Captain on July 31, 1984. He had a very strong reverence for all life and blessed many New Mexico families in his state police service. In May 1954 he married Elizabeth G. "Bette" Gustafson from Minneapolis who was working as a nurse in Santa Fe. He was a charter member, first Church Council Vice-President, and first to be baptized in the newly completed Christ Lutheran Church, in Santa Fe, 1966. He served as Worshipful Master of Montezuma Lodge #1, AF&AM in Santa Fe and was DDGM and was later appointed Deputy of the Supreme Council of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the state of New Mexico. He was elected Sovereign Grand Inspector General (Scottish Rite) for New Mexico and also served as Grand Herald, Grand Sword Bearer and Grand Standard Bearer for the Supreme Council until his retirement on

June 30, 1998. Monroe is survived by his son Jeff and wife Sharon of Albuquerque, and his sister Mattie Newlon, also of Albuquerque. He was preceded in death by his wife Bette in August 2002, his parents, his brother J.B., and his sisters Willie Arnett and Dorothy Burfiend. Memorial services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, February 13, 2015 at Christ Lutheran Church, 1701 Arroyo Chamiso Rd, Santa Fe, NM with honors provided by the New Mexico State Police. Inurnment will take place at 1:30 p.m. also on Friday at Santa Fe National Cemetery with military honors provided by the United States Army Honor Guard, and a Masonic Graveside Service. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to Christ Lutheran Evangelical Church in Santa Fe, the American Diabetes Association, and/or the New Mexico Scottish Rite.

FRENCH – Wyoming
7121 Wyoming Blvd. NE
(505) 823-9400

Cemetery Details

Santa Fe National Cemetery

501 N. Guadalupe St.
NM 87504

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB **13**. 10:30 AM (MT)

Christ Lutheran Church
1701 Arroyo Chamiso Rd.
Santa Fe, NM

Tribute Wall



“ *French Funerals created a Tribute Video in memory of Captain Monroe K. Alexander NMSP*



FRENCH Funerals & Cremations - February 04, 2015 at 10:35 AM

KN

“ *It's a sad time to find out Montoe has passed. He was a gentleman whom loved his family greatly. I'm actually shocked somehow. Wishing Jeff and Sharon peace and many wonderful memories. Loved you too Monroe. I'll keep the years of wonderful memories too. Blessings for all.*
Sincerely,
Kathie Norris

Kathie Norris - February 23, 2015 at 10:44 AM

JS

“ *Only knew Jim thru my friend Fran. He will be missed and want Fran to know I am thinking and praying for her. I will remember him thru the wounded warrior site.*

joyce smith - February 18, 2015 at 06:45 AM

JH

“ I am sadden to hear the passing of not only my first boss with the New Mexico State Police, but also a true friend. Captain Alexander hired me back in 1975 as a fingerprint examiner and helped me grow thru my career. Because of him I have spent all of my 40 years of public service in law Enforcement. My condolences go out to all of his family and may he rest in piece.

Sincerely Joe Herrera

Joe Herrera - February 12, 2015 at 05:55 PM

MS

“ Jeff,
Your Dad was a true friend and dedicated public servant with many years of public service. In addition your mother worked with my late wife Cleo at the Kitchen Shop in DeVargas Mall. Please accept my condolences on the passing of a great man and true friend.
Marion Thomas Sebastian

Marion Thomas Sebastian - February 12, 2015 at 03:23 PM

MC

“ Members of Christ Lutheran Church purchased the Healing Tears - Blue and White for the family of Captain Monroe K. Alexander NMSP.



Members of Christ Lutheran Church - February 10, 2015 at 02:34 PM

KM

“ Jeff,

I send my heartfelt condolences to you and your family. Monroe was a man of utmost integrity. His was a leader and was a model of humility. He truly allowed the light to shine forth to those around him. This is strength of character, which is so lacking in our world today. He touched many lives. As a brother in the Scottish Rite, he had my utmost respect. So many things came to be in the Scottish Rite because of his insight and belief in people. He and Bill Friedman were instrumental in the formation of the Scottish Rite Order of the Thistle Pipe Band, which also laid the groundwork for the actual Order of the Thistle. Without the mentoring of Bill Friedman and Monroe's blessing, none of this would have come to be. I have very fond memories of him and will miss him. You can be proud to be the son of this great man. May our Lord pour out His tender mercies and all His blessings upon you and your family at this time.

In The Love Of Christ,

*K.A. "Dusty" McDaniel
I.F.O.C. Senior Chaplain*

Kenneth (Dusty) McDaniel - February 08, 2015 at 06:58 PM

TS

“ Jeff,
Though I never met your dad, I heard great things about him from my in-laws, Lu and Bill Keil, who knew him through the Lutheran Church in Santa Fe. I remember when you and I took that trip for the Albuquerque Journal to that windblown spot in Oklahoma, famed for the photo of a man and two sons walking toward a tornado cellar. You talked how your dad grew up in such a place in Clayton. My condolences, good friend.
--Toby Smith

Toby Smith - February 08, 2015 at 03:29 PM

AF

“ Jeff - *It was such a pleasure to visit your dad before the 50th Anniversary of Christ Lutheran Church in Santa Fe. He was a rock for the establishment of the loving church community which I enjoy today. What an incredible man! He epitomized what integrity and honor mean. He was a gentleman through and through. Please accept my most heart felt sympathies and pass on to your family. We need many Monroes in our world today. All the best,*

Allyson Faehl

Allyson Faehl - February 07, 2015 at 03:26 PM

NK

“ . . . in an email to Monroe's son, Jeff -

Mr. Alexander,

I was forwarded your message and photographs of your father in uniform. Upon review I could not help to think back to the time Capt. Alexander was a NMSP officer and how so many things in law enforcement have changed. One thing that has not changed is the respect the public has for the NM State Police. That foundation for that respect and history of public service began 50 years ago by your father and others who wore the black and gray. We strive to continue to keep those same values and service intact.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your fathers service to the NM State Police and the inevitable sacrifice your family made to allow him to serve.

Thank you and my condolences.

Chief Pete Kassetas

*Chief/Deputy Secretary
Department of Public Safety
New Mexico State Police
Santa Fe, NM 87504*

NMSP Chief Pete Kassetas - February 06, 2015 at 04:05 PM

SW

“ Aloha, Jeff and family,

It is so hard to say goodbye, but know that your dad's last years were made so much happier, safer, and full due to all your love and care. He was blessed to have you, as you were blessed to have him.

*My love to you at this hard time,
Saucy*

saucy walter - February 01, 2015 at 02:12 PM

RB

“ *Monroe became my "Mentor" when I worked in Records under his supervision. I admired his calm demeanor during any and all situations. He will be remembered by many.*

Ret. Chief, NMSP, Richard C de Baca - January 31, 2015 at 09:16 PM

BB

“ *Monroe Alexander was one of the finest men I've ever known. He was a great man, and a good State Police officer. Monroe was a good friend, and it was a pleasure knowing him. Monroe was a honorable man. He was a good father. I am honored to have known him, and I'm going to miss him.*
Bub Bullis

Bub Bullis - January 31, 2015 at 09:05 PM

EH

“ . . . 'Monroe can best be described using' . . . One word--Integrity. 'Jeff,' your dad was a very kind and upstanding man. He was quiet and watchful, patient and knightly. Jeff, you were most fortunate to have him in your life as all of us were.

Ernestine Hagman - January 31, 2015 at 09:00 PM

MF

“A man of integrity and a Patriot. A man with an enviable sense of humor, who had many stories to tell and jokes to share. A handsome Bloke. A Cowboy. A man of good judgment, the wife he chose! A generous man. A loving brother. A concerned and loving Father and Father-in-law. An animal lover and provider. My friend YOU are missed and held in high regard.

Margaret Fell - January 31, 2015 at 08:28 PM

MI

Jeff and Sharon,
I have many wonderful memories of spending time with Monroe during my visits to Albuquerque, and will miss him. I have a photo of the four of us having dinner several years ago on my desk. He looked so good. He was a wonderful man, and what a life he led! He will always be in my thoughts and heart.

Monica Iversen - February 02, 2015 at 11:03 PM

BG

It was a pleasure knowing Monroe. We both served on the State Police for 30 years. We both were raised in northeastern New Mexico. Ret. Captain Bruce Glasgow.

Bruce Glasgow - February 03, 2015 at 05:57 PM

CM

Jeff and family,
Growing up next to you, my memories of your dad are full of humor and a standard of what the "good old days" are.
Your dad was the last person I remember sitting in the driveway admiring his new car.
And his motorcycle! I don't believe I ever saw it run.
But he loved tinkering with it!
I am sorry for your loss.

Charles Montoya
Chandler, Arizona

Charles Montoya - February 03, 2015 at 10:02 PM

KA

“ I'm so sad to think that Uncle Buddy is gone now, but am at the same time happy that he left without passing through too much misery. And with you and him still in sweet relationship.

THAT is the lasting impression in my mind of Uncle Buddy. I remember, even as a small boy, being taken by the relationship you two shared. There was a thick edge of friendship between you that Dad and I did not share ... until I was an adult and, then, beyond the pail of daily influence. You both wore it so well, even - maybe especially - after you returned home from your time away "in the islands". ;-) You have always made a very good team.

So when I think of Uncle Buddy I think of you, your calculation and humor and gracious loving nature.

I love you, Jeff, and appreciate the blood and heritage we share.

. . . some "quick thoughts" about Uncle Buddy. Not sure if this is what you're looking for, but here goes:

- twinkle in his eye
- consciously built bridges into his son's life
- thoughtful and generous
- intimate communicator
- driven to high accomplishments, and (rightfully) proud of them.
- poor farm boy to FBI Academy to 33 degree Mason, for instance
- meticulous
- disciplined
- historian
- Monroe #1 ;-) (I have always been so proud to have been named after him; and, thus, Kendrick Monroe and Conley Monroe.)

Keith Monroe Arnett - January 31, 2015 at 08:25 PM

RB

My condolences to the family and friends of Captain Alexander. The citizens of New Mexico and Officers of the State Police were lucky to have such a fine individual caring for them. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Randy Bertram, Deputy Chief NMSP Retired

Randy Bertram - February 02, 2015 at 05:36 PM

MT

“ *Here are my first words for describing Uncle Bud:*

**First crush*

**Family hero (evidenced by how many photos and pages he has in our family album!)*

**protective*

**thorough*

**Motorcycle riding, sports car driving, coolest uncle!*

**generous to a fault"*

- tied with -

**an honorable and true gentleman . . . I could keep going . . .*

Mary Ruth Tapp - January 31, 2015 at 08:18 PM

KA

“ *Monroe "Uncle Bud" Alexander*

When I think of Uncle Bud, a vivid picture quickly pops into my mind. It is a picture of him standing at parade rest. I see his dashing, handsome looks, the clean and orderly crispness of his uniform and the warmth in his eyes. For me, that represents his understanding and desire for order, respect and his willingness to protect others. His eyes represent his gentle heart and his deep sincerity and care for others.

Karen Alexander - January 31, 2015 at 08:09 PM

JQ

“ *Dedicated to the force and dedicated to family. He always wanted you to think and be safe when out and about.*

Joe F. Quintana - January 31, 2015 at 08:06 PM

RD

“ *Your dad was in the hospital and your mom met him there. She went to our cousins and told him if he came for her she would marry him. Needless to say he showed up, Topsy made her wedding dress and the rest is history.*

rose dukatz - January 31, 2015 at 08:04 PM

GG

“ *I was very sorry to hear of his death. Regardless of age it is always hard to lose someone you love. I do remember going to Santa Fe when I was 12 or 13 and he took me every place with him. I saw the old prison in downtown before they tore it down, I went on patrol at night with him and had breakfast with him and the other officers. He was always very kind to me.*

Glenn Gustafson - January 31, 2015 at 08:02 PM

“ Monroe really was my hero in so many ways.

The bat story always makes me smile. I used to leave Albuquerque at 4:00 am to transfer freight to all the northern drivers (Pony Express Courier Services) so this bat incident must have been around 6:00 am in Santa Fe. I remember taking the freight into the foyer of the bank (the whole parking lot was empty except for my truck) it was still dark out & I unlocked the bank door and pushed my 2 wheeler in & dropped off the packages and when I turned to go out there was something small blocking the doorway. I didn't know for sure if it was a mouse or what as it's wings were folded in. It looked dead and I felt terrible. I thought I had run it over with my hand cart. I felt so bad that I called Monroe on the 2-way radio and he told me he'd be right over to help me. When he got there we both bent over the unknown creature in the dim light and thought it was dead. Monroe said he'd take care of it for me so we pushed it onto my hand truck with our feet and rolled it over towards Monroe's van where there was better lighting. We were looking at it and Monroe said he thought for sure it was dead and we both bent down to look at him closer and suddenly the "mouse" woke up & flew straight for Monroe's face! You've never seen 2 people jump back in total shock as we were! 1st we were stunned then just broke out laughing! Then Monroe reconstructed what must have really happened. He thinks the bat was hanging up sleeping in the eave of the doorway of the bank and when I opened the door I must have stunned him & knocked him out. I wish they had cameras in the parking lots at that time cause it would have been so funny to have seen our faces!

Monroe was always there to help out....I didn't know my way around Santa Fe and he bought me a special map like the one he used. I also remember that sometimes it was really snowy out and the road to Santa Fe was iced over I'd get scared driving on I-25 that early in the morning. There were hardly ever any other vehicles on the road as early as I went and sometimes I couldn't see the lanes or edges of the road. I'd get on my 2 way radio and call to Monroe & he'd talk me all the way into Santa Fe, telling me stories and making me

laugh. Before I knew it I was in Santa Fe unloading the freight. He's the person who taught me the correct radio lingo to use with the other drivers....I thought that was so cool! Of course he knew it from being a State Policeman. He was always so kind to everyone but still knew how to joke and have fun. I really miss him. He was a wonderful friend.

Kelle Delaney - January 31, 2015 at 07:58 PM

BM

“*Monroe was a close friend and brother for nearly 50 years and was a true leader in Masonry and Scottish Rite in particular.*

Nellene and I count it an honor to have known such a Man!

Bill & Nellene Marsh - January 31, 2015 at 07:52 PM

RD

“*Jeff, you're mom always said, "Monroe was the last cowboy and he was her cowboy". I always enjoyed talking with your dad. We were able to play catch up on the family.*

Rose Dukatz - January 31, 2015 at 07:50 PM

HR

“Mr. Alexander, as we called him when we were kids and young adults, was a wonderful neighbor and friend. It took me a long time to realize that he was in law enforcement until one day he brought his patrol car home. Although he was strict with his son Jeff, he was kind and compassionate with him when needed. He was always kind to us. He always greeted us with a smile and a "good morning" as we went off to school and he went to work. He was young at heart This he demonstrated with us kids when we played on our neighborhood street. He understood us and communicated and played with us at our level He was an exceptional lawman. Patrolman Alexander understood the law and how to apply it. He did it in a non-threatening manner and with finesse. I witnessed his abilities many times and was even stopped by him once. Capitan Alexander was a born leader and trained his patrolmen through his example. He was well respected by his colleagues. He, like my father, Magistrate Eugene Romero, understood that those who were genuinely remorseful would have an opportunity to make amends and see their way out of detention. He also had compassion for the less fortunate and was respected by the Hispano and Native American communities of New Mexico.

Hilario Romero, Santa Fe

Hilario Romero - January 31, 2015 at 07:46 PM



“A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Captain Monroe K. Alexander NMSP.



January 31, 2015 at 02:09 PM

BM

“ *On behalf of the French Family of Companies, we express our deepest condolences.*

Brandon Morrison - January 27, 2015 at 05:50 PM