



## Alex Sanderson Crank

January 11, 1932 - September 24, 2007

Alex Sanderson Crank, 75, went to be with the Lord on Monday, September 24, 2007. He was born January 11, 1932 in Garland, Arkansas to Elmer "Bill" and Vera L. Crank. After attending Southern Arkansas University, he entered into military service in the US Army during the Korean War and was stationed at Ft. Sam Houston, TX where he met and married his Air Force sweetheart, Novella Mae Steer of Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania. They recently celebrated their 53rd anniversary. In addition to working for a short time on the Southern Pacific Railroad, "Crank" was an entrepreneur of landscaping, soft drink home delivery, and used car and parts sales and service for fifty years. He was most proud of the service to the City of San Antonio for 34 years 1958-1993 as a Professional Firefighter. Mr. Crank was the recipient of the 7th Annual Fireman's Award in 1967. The Guy Cude Award was bestowed upon "the Fireman who made the most outstanding contribution to the community and to civic projects." Its motto is "What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us but what we have done for others and the world lives on forever." He served local PTAs for 30 years in San Antonio ISD and East Central ISD. He received a State Life Membership in PTA in 1973. Not only did he receive several county and state 4-H awards as a youth, but he served as an adult 4-H leader for 11 years. As a life member, Mr. Crank served on the San Antonio Livestock Exposition Auction Committee for 25 years. He was a

long-time member of Harmony Baptist Church where he served in a variety of positions. He was known to most as "Papa Crank" and was an avid outdoorsman who loved fishing and hunting. Some of the best times of his life were spent on treks in the state of Colorado. He is preceded in death by parents, siblings, numerous aunts and cousins, and his son, John Edward Crank 1962-1978. He is survived by his wife, Novella; daughter and son-in-law, Vicki and Greg Root; son, Alex S. Crank, II; son and daughter-in-law, Timothy and Melissa Crank; grandchildren, Christopher and Jennifer Sauer; Amy Crank Gallien; Alexis Crank and Jerry Fewox; Charles Thomas and Coty Stephens; Travis, Andrew, Kaylee, and Christina Crank, and great-grandchildren, Tyler, Dyson, and Hunter Gallien. He is also survived by his brother, Billy B. Crank and family of Las Vegas, Nevada, as well as countless other family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in his memory to the Harmony Baptist Church Building Fund, 12088 Old Corpus Christi Rd., San Antonio, TX 78223. The Crank family also wishes to encourage all who are able to donate the gift of blood to do so on the 5th floor of University Hospital of San Antonio. The excellent care and treatment of our family, while there, will never be forgotten.

# Tribute Wall

CM

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I feel like I knew Mr.Crank through the many colorful stories that I heard through Tim and Vicki. Your family will be in my thoughts and prayers.

Carmen McIntyre - September 06, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ Vicki,  
It has been too long since we talked. I am saddened by your loss. I am sorry I wasn't there for you, as you certainly were for me for many years. Sincerely, Debi Dorrough

Debi Dorrough - October 22, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ Mrs. Crank my deepest sympathy go out to you and your family during this difficult and trying time. Your family will be in my thoughts and prayers and May God Bless you and your family.

Lisa Jasik - October 01, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ Alex was a wonderful man who would help in you any way he could- and such a character! God Bless & comfort Alex's family, as the Lord receives one of His own in Heaven! We love you Papa Crank! In His Love, Art, Judy, Ginger & Joshua Brown and Cinamon & Ji

Art & Judy Brown - October 01, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Words cannot express the sorrow my family and I feel for your family. Please know that you are in our prayers.

Jean Graham Fry - October 01, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ My deepest sympathies for your loss, Alex was my first officer when I joined the fire department 20 years ago. Although I only served a short time with him before I was permanently assigned elsewhere he was one of my favorite officers. I owe a lot of who

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**Steven Potter** - September 30, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Dear Novella, Vicki & Crank Family,  
I am so sorry for your loss of your dear husband & father. I have so many fond memories of being in your home as a child and sharing happy times  
with you all. "Crank" was someone I looked at as  
a warm, kind, fun lo

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**Julie Clark Seideman** - September 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ To a man always had a smile on his face and laughter in his voice. We admired his strength and hard work. "We will miss your stories, wisdom, and generosity. You will be missed by us and all that know and love you."

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**Brandon and Tracie Caddell** - September 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ our thoughts and prayers are with you in this time of need. May God guide you and keep you strong.  
The family of  
Danny and Linda Webb

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**Melinda Kevil-Webb** - September 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ i am so sorry for your loss. may god bless you and keep everyone of you in his thoughts

**cindy rodriguez** - September 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ I had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Crank through his son Tim and his daughter Vicki. I always enjoyed visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Crank...they were always very kind. I was fortunate enough to run into Mr. Crank a few months ago at HEB. We talked for sev

**Don Hays** - September 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Dear Crank family. Clara and I together with our entire family are deeply saddened by the death of our friend Alex Crank. We will remember your family in our prayers and ask that our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ watch over you and provide blessings to

**Jerry and Clara Beauchamp** - September 28, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CO

“ The Golden Gates To Heaven Are Opened Waiting For Your Arrival, Mr Crank. God Bless You All In Your Time Of Need. My Prayers For All The Crank Family

**Cynthia OwensOldham** - September 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ Dear Crank family, My heart aches for you in the loss of your family patriarch. We are a lucky minority that were blessed with dads who loved us with their heart and soul, their time and words. My prayer is that you will be comforted by all your friends

**Melodye Pieniazek** - September 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Novella, We are heartbroken for you and the family. We also want to celebrate Alexs' life. He was such a kind, loving person who you so enjoyed sharing time with. He was someone you could trust and depend on. He made the world a better place and that i

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**Jim and Anna Boyer** - September 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

VW

“ Dear Novella:

*I am so sorry to hear about Mr. Crank and as soon as I heard about him being in the hospital, I flashed back to the first time I remember seeing him. I was only 5 years old and at that time you lived down the street from us. Mom and Dad*

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**Virginia Whitworth** - September 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LE

“ Dear Crank Family,

*I am very sorry for your loss. I went to school w/ Vicki at Rogers Jr high and Highlands. Vicki would also attend scout functions with her friend Janis Deason where I was a scout at Troop 358. My prayers and thoughts are with*

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**Larry Everman** - September 27, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ My thought and prayers are with all of you during this difficult time.

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**Deena Smith Raynor** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ My heart, thoughts and prayers are with your family.

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**Tabitha Fellows-hoffstatter** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MI

“ *Alex Sanderson Crank*

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**misty** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

HT

“ *Please aaccept my deepest condolences on the passing of Alex. Alex and I worked in the same fire district. He was on hell of a good fire fighter. They don't make then like that any more. Thank the good Lord for allowing this wonderful man to cross our*

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**Henry Trevino** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ *Dear Crank Family,*

*May time and faith in Our Lord help to ease your loss.*

*With heartfelt sympanthy,*

*Barbara Spencer*

*PHCC Bookkeeper*

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**Barbara Spencer** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ *Dear Crank Family:*

*My thoughts and prayers go out to you during this difficult time.*

*In Christ,*

*Cheryl*

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**Cheryl Bilbro Cagle** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to Novella and all the family of Alex Crank. May God bless you as you try to overcome this tragedy.

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**Bill & Clarice Lloyd** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ Goodbye old friend, God bless!

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September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AT

“ Novella:  
I was so sorry to hear the sad news about your husband. Fifty-three years is a lifetime to be married. My husband, John and I, were married 51 years this month so I can only imagine what you're going through.  
I remember when you were presiden

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**Annell Thompson** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ May god bless your family during this difficult time, but keep in mind that the lord has big plans for Mr. Crank. The Crank family is in our prayers.

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**Keith Moore** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

FO

“ Alex touched many lives and hearts in his lifetime. He will be deeply missed, but rest assured he is up in heaven watching over your family.

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**Felix and Jodi Ochoa** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ I hope that knowing Papa Crank is watching over us until we meet again fills your heart with peace. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

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**Suleta Altgelt Graham** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ Your family is our thoughts and prayers!

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**Melissa Webb** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DN

“ Many thoughts and prayers go out to all family. May God give you peace and guidance through this very difficult time. Many blessings too.

*Deana Neumeyer Lindy's cousin*

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**Deana Neumeyer** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

PK

“ Your family will be in my prayers

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**Pat Kramer** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ Dear Crank Family, I personally know the pain of a loss of a parent, and there are no words to convey that would represent how deep the pain will flow. I do know one thing and your family will share the same comfort, our loved ones will greet us at the ga

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**DeAnna Dominguez** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ To the Crank Family,

*No amount of words can express how deeply Papa Crank will be missed. But I want to let you all know that the hands of God are upon you now in this tough time. As faithful Christian people, we know and feel His presence. You know*

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**Ryan Loyd** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ *Alex Crank was a very kind, loving and generous man. I admired his complete devotion to his family, and his warmth and sense of humor with everyone.*

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**Judy Gallien** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ *Your in our Thoughts & Prayers at this time of Sadness. From Spencer Kiesel's family. SAFD*

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**Jill Kiesel-Rodriguez** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SK

“ *May Gold bless you and your family and help you through this time of sorrow.*

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**Sharon and Phyllis Kerrigan** - September 26, 2007 at 12:00 AM