

before us.

April 13, 1940 - January 28, 2020

Psalm 139:13-16 and Ephesians 6:2-3 —

Paul Michael Alexander was born in San Francisco, California on April 13th,1940 to Paul Edwin Alexander and Ann V. Alexander. He had an older sister Regina "Nene" Chapman and a younger brother Ronald "Buzz" Alexander.







The family moved to Bakersfield while he was in grade school and he later went on to graduate from Bakersfield High School.





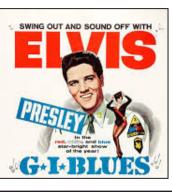






The majority of pictures on this page are courtesy of the family of Paul Alexander. Thank You!!!





Paul joined the United States Marine Corp right out of High School and served at Camp Pendleton.



While on leave in 1961 he met Peggy Dowd on a blind date. He took her to the movies to see "G.I. Blues" staring Elvis Presley.

And then — at that time — he decided to trade one life of service for another.

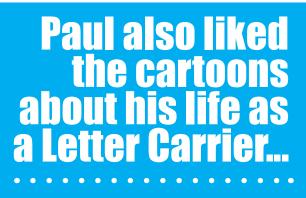


The two married on September 15th, 1961 at Chester Avenue Baptist Church. Paul and Peggy would go on to have three boys.

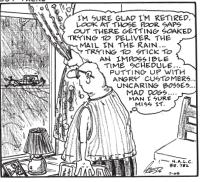
After the Marine Corps, he began working for Valley Office Supply here in town.

In October of 1962 he began working for the US Postal Service as a Letter Carrier, walking most of his routes. He worked for the Postal Service for over 37 years before retiring in 1999.









Originally published October 2006

FEBRUARY 2020

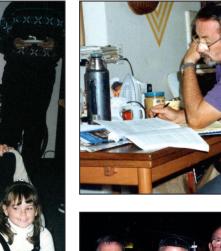


















Paul's passion soon turned to his grandchildren attending sporting events and graduations if he could not be there, he always wanted photos. Lots and lots of photos! As some of them moved away he always wanted updates and photos and with the addition great grandchildren more and more photos.

Paul enjoyed bowling with Peggy and all the friends that they met. He enjoyed going to Sunday School and Church and loved his family that he made at Crossover Church of Rosedale, he was an active participate at most every workday at the church often out working most of the younger men that showed up.

Above all he was a deeply devoted husband and an incredible example of this to his children and all of his grandchildren.



"...he always wanted photos. Lots and lots of photos!"

Paul was proceeded in death by his Mother and Father as well as his Sister and Brother and Brother in law Larry Walsh.

Paul is survived by his Wife of 58 years, Peggy; Sister-in-Law, Ada Walsh; His Son, Michael Alexander, wife Cyndee; Son, Brian Alexander wife Kelly; Son, Scott Alexander. Grandchildren: Michael Alexander and wife Noel; Cody Alexander and wife Yvette; Allen Willis and wife Jenica; Angela Wallem and husband Joe; Adam Willis; Austin Willis and wife Tammie; Samantha Shoemaker and husband Codi; Summer Alexander; Robert Alexander and Great Grandchildren Aiden Alexander - Cason Alexander - Caleb Shoemaker - Bailey Shoemaker - Mariah Willis - Noah Willis - Rylee Willis - Jessyca Wallem - Krista Wallem - Allen Willis - Nick Willis - Conner Willis - Addison Willis - Alannah Willis - Lillian Willis - Liam Willis - Kathleen Willis

Paul went to be with his Savior on January 28, 2020. Paul trusted in Jesus Christ and because of that all who do will see him again.







FEBRUARY 2020

Deuteronomy 5:16...

A parting message from son Brian Alexander

Our Dad had a servant's heart, from the time I remember he was a living example of someone who served others not because the he looked for recognition, but because it was the right thing to do.

I was a witness to a sacrificial love as I watched him and my mother.

Growing up Dad was not one to say "I love you" a lot. It was only later in life when he was blessed with Grandchildren that I heard him say "I love you" more and more.







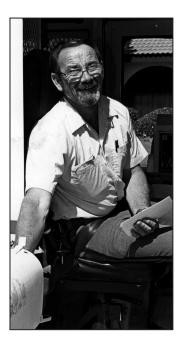
"I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and

domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the



United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God."

Even though Dad didn't express that in words, he showed it time and time again through his actions and the sacrifices he made for us and my mother!





Often, he would work two jobs just to make sure we had what we needed.

He installed a work ethic in myself and my brothers that is alive and well in our children. Any job he did no matter how big or small or what the pay, he did it the best he could never doing anything halfway anyone who knew him for any length of time knew that. Even after retiring from the Postal Service he immediately started working as a crossing guard not wanting to be idle.



While Dad was a hands-on manual labor guy, technology was not his friend, anyone that ever saw him pull out his flip phone might

have figured that out. (It was his *three-year old* Great Grandson Aiden that showed him that his phone had a camera!!) I tried numerous times to get him into *this* century with little success...

We purchased a computer for him, and I set up an email for him and showed him numerous times how to use it. It was only when I did his taxes each year that I found all the unread emails from the previous year. About a year or so ago we got both Mom and Dad Ipads, I was trying to teach him to text with limited success, he liked it because it meant I could send him pictures of the Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren.

As far as actual texting went, one humorous exchange comes to mind: He sent me a text message that read "My Ipad is offline and the wi-fi is not working". My reply was, "Not if I'm getting this text, Dad". He always got so excited when eventually he would successfully text one of the Grandkids and they responded!

Another ability my father had was the ability to fall asleep in virtually ANY position! Now, people who met him in his latter years may have attributed this to his getting older. But, the family knows this was NOT the case. He has had this talent ever since we were kids. He always blamed it on the Marine Corps and stated that he had been trained to sleep ANYWHERE and in ANY position. This was a training he mastered for his entire life!



Recently I had to have a very hard talk with Dad...a talk where the roles seemed to reverse and I found myself giving him advice — advice he did not necessarily want to hear. I ended the conversation by telling him, "I love you Dad". He replied, "I love you too, more than you will ever know"

Dad truly looked forward to coming to Life Groups and Church on Sundays and dearly loved his Crossover Family. He loved his three Boys and their wives, all the Grandkids and Great Grandkids "so much more than we will ever know".

But, he loved our Mom, his wife of 58 Years, with a love and devotion that sets the example for the rest of us!!!

We love you and we will miss you Dad.



When we think of Grandpa, we think of someone who was always there. Regardless of the event, you could always count on Grandpa being there!

He loved spending time with us, and when he couldn't be there, he would make sure we always called when we got to our destination. He was always concerned when we travelled and would remind us to be safe. Every time we talked, or yelled, to him, he would always make us laugh. Never ceased to remind us how young he was.

Samantha, Summer, Robert



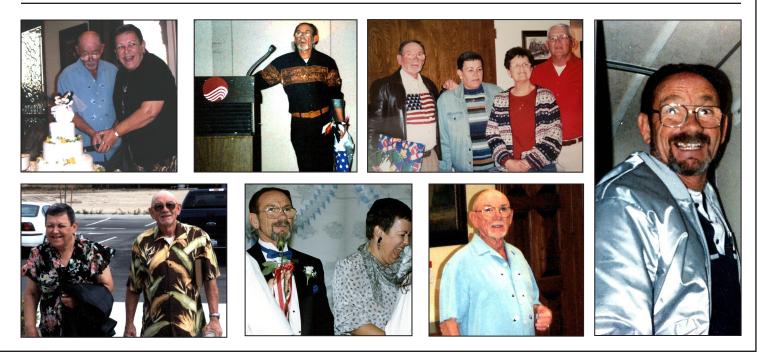
Thank you Grandpa for all the memories and joy you have brought into my life. It was a privilege and an honor to be your grandson.

I will never forget the airshows and the annual trips to the jet propulsion laboratory open house. Your support left a mark on

my life that I will never forget and helped me get where I am today!

No words will ever be able to express how much we will all miss you. I love you so much and I'm know that we will see each other gain someday.

Michael







Paul remembered a dear friend who passed away on April 11, 2017...



"Captured" here in this old black-and-white picture taken in the early 1980s is a group of the Branch 782 members who were active at the time: Leo Walker (Branch 782 President); Tony Chavez, Vice-President; Paul Alexander, Chief Steward; John Ross, Recording Secretary; and Mely Villagomez, Treasurer. [Although there were color photographs available, they cost a little more to process. No, we didn't use use stone tablets. But, this scene *was* a long time ago...]

For years, John Ross was involved with everything that represented Carriers and the Union. He always had a positive approach and input in all of my dealings with him. And, no matter how serious the conversation was, John always had a smile on his face.

My memories of John go way back to the

in different locations all over the country. It's interesting how remembering things about John also give me a chance to remember others who also used to be a part of the life of our union. I remember Leo Walker, John Wonderly, Oscar Maclin, Mely Villagomez and others. Many of them are gone now, but they were an important part of what we all did.

MDA Telethons that we were so involved with as a Union. He and I were joined by our wives (Mary and Peggy) and other Branch 782 officers like Tony Chavez and his wife, Bertha. Together with other Branch 782 members like Mark Ramirez, Margaret Romero, Bill Curtis, Basil Zuniga and many others, we answered MDA



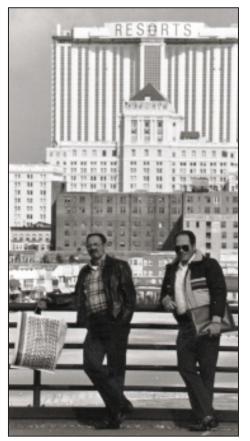
Another black-and-white picture, records Branch 782's involvement in another MDA Telethon in the 19890s. (l-r) Robin Mangrin (television personality), Basil Zuniga, Paul Alexander, Cathy Thompson and John Ross as we together made a donation to help out Jerry's Kids for our members.

phones, worked the MDA "mailroom" and did many, many other things for "Jerry's Kids".

Through the years, we were delegates to state and national NALC conventions. We also attended seminars and other meetings Basil asked me to try to remember any specific things that make me smile. Here are a couple of memories.

One year, delegates were at the San Francisco airport waiting for our plane to travel to Portland, OR for a national convention. John and Mary Ross and my wife, Peggy, and I were sitting together. Mary looked up and said, "Oh, my, *that's* Pat Boone!" I — of course — didn't think that it was and I said, "*IF* that's Pat Boone, I'll buy dinner for everybody tonight."

Well, Mary got Pat Boone's autograph and she also had dinner on me!!

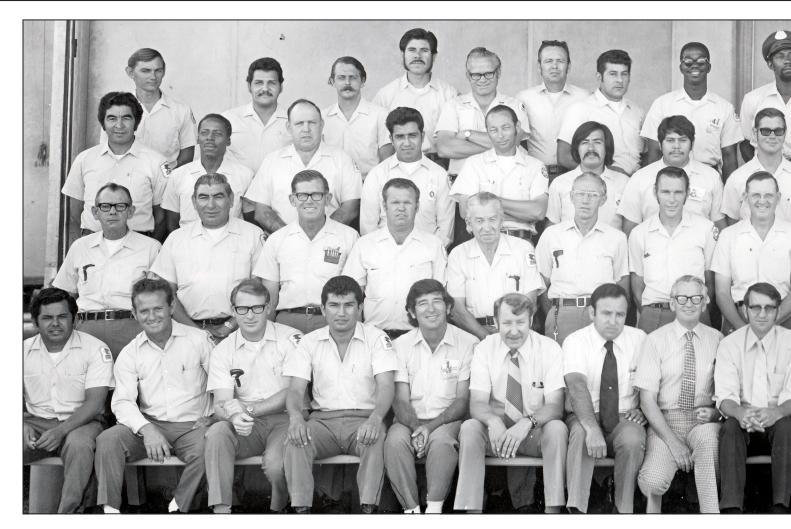


John Ross and I during a trip to Atlantic City, New Jersey to attend an NALC Health Benefits Training Seminar. And, yes, it is another of those old black-and-white pictures...

I remember one other occasion. We were at an NALC Health Benefits Seminar in Las Vegas and John and Mary Ross and Peggy were all singing the words to music of the 50's and 60's that we were listening to. (We all knew the words to the oldies *before* they became the *oldies*.) But, because they knew me and had heard my my musical abilities, they didn't ask me to sing!

If I took more time to remember things, I might. But, as I've aged, my memory isn't what it used to be. So this is it for now.

PAUL ALEXANDER NALC Branch 782 President Emeritus



(left to right) Front Row: Joe Santa Cruz, Wes Johnson, Allen Springman, Pimienta, Joe Gonzalez, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Steve Gomez, Lilo "Sarge" Price, Spike Berna, Unknown, Unknown, John Sudsbury, Bob Third Row: Don Gomez, Unknown, Marshall Eaton, Unkown, Hugh Altman, Joe Gandara, Teddy Ma Fourth Row: Unknown, Unknown, Bill Siefert, Unknown, Billy Hale, Unknown, Frank Diaz, John Howle

As a side-note: Paul Alexander was with a group of "Old Fart Retirees" names to faces in some of the old pictures on the wall. Although often cit

Each of the pages in this memorial keepsake feature "slices of life" captured in a camera's do have lives away from the Postal Service) there are many pictures which feature him with f

The above picture was taken on July 27, 1972 and it was probably a pretty warm Bakersfield curious, you can find Paul seated in the front row and second from the right.) Sadly, many o

Paul Alexander succeeded Tony Chavez as NALC Branch 782 President and held office durin membership. He was most inclined to be supportive of our efforts on behalf of the NALC's of a parent with a child afflicted by a long-term condition or disease. For him, wholehear

Although we Letter Carriers knew him at work, there was more to his story. By the same tok



own, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Pete Colbert, Bill Quinlan, Ray Brady, Paul Alexander, Luther Lane Hull, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Ralph chavez, Unknown, John Reddy, Unknown, "Candy" Abelia rtinez, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, George White, Tony Chavez, Unknown tt, Lou Garvin, Unknown, Alex Dang, Unknown, Unknown, Gary Golden, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown

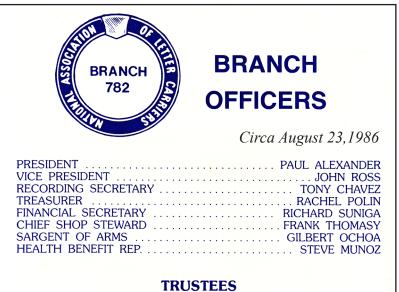
who gathered in the Branch 782 office on March 12, 2015 to try to put ing "lousy memories", they did a pretty darn good job of remembering!!

s lens. In some, Paul is shown participating in our NALC activities. And, because each of us Friends and family living what was a definitely very full and very rich life through many years!

summer day. At that time, ten years had been "notched" on his mail satchel strap. (If you are f those in this picture are no longer with us. We are all just passing through. We know that.

g the 1980s. In this role, he was active in many varied activites and duties on behalf of the Muscular Dystrophy Association because he lived — personally — the anquish and suffering ted participation in this type of mission wasn't just a passing fad cause. It was in his DNA.

en, some family members might also be surprised at the many things Paul did with others...



GILBERT CHAVEZ

BILL CURTIS

MICHAEL FREEMAN

SHOP STEWARDS

DOWNTOWN (93301)	STEVE MUNOZ
SOUTH MAIN ANNEX (93304)	. MARGARET ROMERO
EAST BAKERSFIELD (93305)	
HILLCREST (93306)	RAFAELA OCHOA
BRUNDAGE (93307)	EMORY JENNINGS
OILDALE (93308)	
STOCKDALE (93309)	ALEX DANG
ARVIN (93203)	SANTOS GONZALES
DELANO (93215)	
EDWARDS (93534)	FRED ERICKSON
LAMONT (93241)	MARK RAMIREZ
MOJAVE (93501)	. SANDY ROBERTSON
SHAFTER (93263)	
TEHACHAPI (93561)	
TRONA (93562)	

The Bakersfield Post Office was established on August 22, 1869. The free delivery of mail was started on June 1, 1900 with four carriers. Records show that the first carriers in Bakersfield were L. O. Stevenson, R. E. Galloway, G. A. Newberry and Ed Kent. H. E. Wells was the first substitute carrier.

In Bakersheid were L. O. Stevenson, R. L. Galloway, G. A. Dewoerty and Ed Reite T. E. Wells was the first substitute carrier. Brother Otwelle Stevenson was Carrier No. 1 in Bakersfield. He served as Branch Secretary from the time of its inception until he transferred to Long Beach in 1920. In a letter to Branch 782, Brother Stevenson stated:

"A civil service examination was held for carrier prior to the institution of delivery service in 1900. Seventeen persons took the examination and four were successful in passing. I was the first foot carrier and my route covered the business district.

Practically all of the population gave up their post office boxes in anticipation of the free delivery at their homes, but after a few days of poor service by two inexperienced carriers who worked from daylight until dark, they came back to the Post Office to re-rent boxes. By July 1st, the department realized that the load was too heavy and substitute carrier.

When we started in the Service, we received the large sum of \$600 per year for the first year and \$800 the second year, \$1,000 the third, \$1,200, and then \$1,500, later \$1,800 and finally \$2,100, which was the top pay and was not increased until 1945."















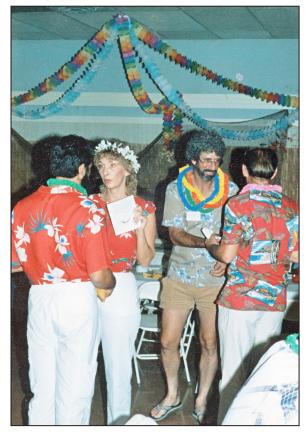
"...he always wanted photos. Lots and lots of photos!"**





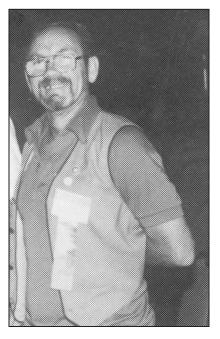
**And, yup, we did get a few...



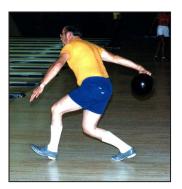






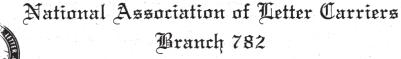


FEBRUARY 2020









Bakersfield, California

AFFILIATED WITH THE AFL-CIO

September 5, 1986

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS

BRANCH'S ACTIVITY REPORT --- JERRY LEWIS LABOR DAY WEEKEND TELETHON

To Whom This May Concern:

This letter is an addendum to the "NALC Branch Activity Report -Jerry Lewis Labor Day Weekend Telethon". It serves to report the amounts raised at various functions conducted by this Branch. It also records the total monies raised in pledges and donations during the course of this year's Branch 782 MDA Campaign.

A telephone report was made to assigned NALC numbers during the Labor Day Weekend. At that time, it was noted that we projected raising a total of \$12,457.21 by the end of the Telethon.

The total amount that we wish to report in pledges and donations is to be changed to \$13,181.46. The following information itemizes each of the activities and amounts potentially raised:

League Bowler Project.....\$5,405.88 in donations

Bowl-A-Thon #2 (8/16/86).....2,628.43 pledges & donations

Branch MDA Raffle #1 (8/23/86).....1,107.00 in donations

Branch MDA Raffle #2 (Telethon)......420.00 in donations

This report is late because the Branch Secretary and the Branch Treasurer audited the monies raised in the MDA raffles.

If there are any questions regarding our 1986 MDA Campaign, feel free to contact me or this year's Chairperson, Basil Zuniga.

Sincerely,

President

Tale -PAUL ALEXANDER



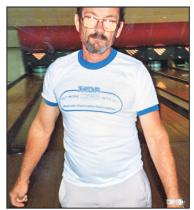


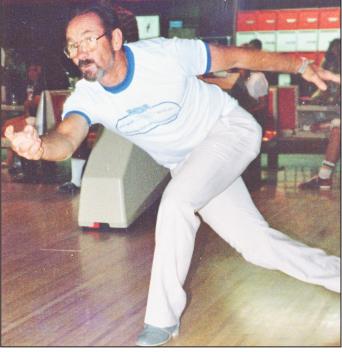












Paul Alexander was passionate about helping "Jerry's Kids"!



1:00 P.M. EAST HILLS LANES 8331 KERN CANYON RD.





The MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY DRIVE which now is the JERRY LEWIS TELETHON is the National Association of Lettercarriers brainchild. It all began in 1952. The lettercarriers union, with the blessings of the then Post Office Department originated the famous drive. The post office department printed millions of envelopes with the year's poster child on it. Lettercarriers then cased this mail on their routes and delivered it all in one day.

The news media was then brought into action. They advised patrons to look for the envelopes. And then on a given day, people who wanted to donate were asked to put on their porch lights. Each carrier walked his route at night without pay and collected the envelopes and returned them to the post office.

The drive was a huge success. Over 75 percent of the envelopes distributed were returned with donations for this worthy cause. This went on for two years and the responses were overwhelming. It became a nightmare. There was the huge problem of accountability. When it appeared that a monster was created the Post Office Department said ENOUGH and the lettercarriers' brainchild ended. The firefighters then took it over and after a year, Jerry Lewis took charge and with television now coming on strong, the now Telethon emerged. And that's the way it started.



(l-r) Bonnie Smith, Mark Ramirez, John Ross, Peggy Alexander (who did not want to get her picture taken), Paul Alexander and Mary Ross in a picture taken during the 1986 MDA Telethon at the Kern County Fairgrounds. Some of you may notice in the pictures on this page that Mark used to have hair.

Believe it or not — whether you believe it or not — you may find yourself in a similar situation in years to come when you look back through old pictures and see that time has also brought about some changes in the way that you look, too. Really? Yes, Really.







Thank you for making the 1986 MDA Project a success

President, Branch 782

H. Cler/ali-











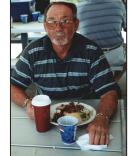






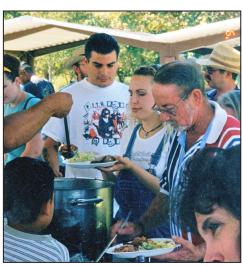
















For Paul, there were Branch 782 meetings, potlucks, picnics, Christmas parties, NALC State and National Conventions and many friendships!!!

FEBRUARY 2020

NALC Branch 782 Retiree Dinner





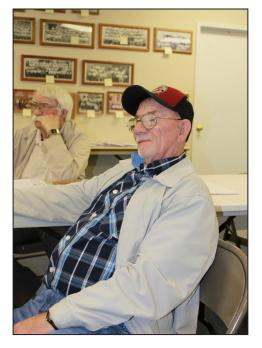
















On March 12, 2015 some thirty "Old Timers" gathered together in the Branch office for a mission: They used their shared memories to try to put names to faces on old pictures. It turned into a fun time with many hilarious memories...

PAGE 18



This is a very unusual picture. Most Letter Carriers never have a picture of them performing their duties. Here, Paul is checking out accountables.

from the editor-guy

I became a member of the National Association of Letter Carriers when I was hired by the USPS in 1979. My first few years were a blur punctuated by entirely different kinds of experiences walking the streets of Bakersfield (dogs, weather, friendly customers, etc.).

Hired as a *Part Time* Flexible employee my first assumption was that I would be working less than forty hours a week. *Boy, was I wrong!* I found myself very gainfully — and sometimes even painfully — *employed sixty hours a week!*

Additionally, there was the discovery that there were many, many, many rules and regulations that I was expected to adhere to. It was easy to run afoul of "the system". I was called into the office one day because, in the opinion of my supervisor, I had "taken too long on the street".

Because the NALC is tasked with representing Letter Carriers in contractual and discipline issues, my Shop Steward (George White) came in with me. He asked management a number of questions and raised issues like how often I had carried that route, how heavy the mail was that day, and if the time I had taken was out of line with what others had demonstrated that day with the volume.

I was extremely grateful that I had someone in my corner! I decided that I wanted to become a more active member of "my" Union.

At that time, Tony Chavez was the Branch 782 President and Paul Alexander was the Vice-President. I was amazed at how open and welcoming they were when I volunteered to get involved.

Moreover, as I became more and more active in a variety of Branch projects, each of them was so supportive in undertaking some pretty novel roles. I would have these hare brained ideas to do something. And (while probably scratching their heads) they found themselves standing in front of television cameras for MDA; spending an evening folding, stapling and labeling newsletters; or helping with the planning needed to help me coordinate Branch 782 dinner dances and *then* they found themselves cleaning up at the end of the night!

And these were just a few things I remember about Paul Alexander.

When Paul succeeded Tony Chavez as President, he was faced with one particular responsibility that, I think, became more and more



Did anyone who worked with Paul ever know that he was a soccer linesman for AYSO games? Probably not...



The City of Bakersfield issued a proclamation to honor Letter Carriers.

difficult each and every month he was in office. *Paul had to write a monthly article for the newsletter*. In his message, he had the opportunity to address items he felt that members should take to heart.

As was shared at Paul's funeral, he was not particularly adept with technology. He was more of a pen and paper kind of guy when it came to jotting down his thoughts.

I have a vivid recollection of the yellow, lined sheets of legal sized paper that I would receive from him. *Each* month, he was so very first but in under

faithful in undertaking this task!

More importantly — with the added experience garnered through my own thirty plus years as an NALC activist — I can now more thoroughly appreciate the tremendous amount of time that he devoted to doing the best



job possible for all members of Branch 782. (Peggy, no doubt, would be able to share accounts of her being a "union widow"...)

Going through the many pictures used to compile this memorial keepsake, have given me an opportunity to review many "pictures" that are only in my memory: In one, Paul is at a California State Convention when "Hands Across America" was weaving its way along the street by our hotel in 1986. He jumped right in and encouraged the other members of our delegation to do the same; Later in the 1980s, I became involved in a USPS project to increase the commitment to customer service. This spurred a secondary effort with the use of video training. I asked Paul if he would be willing to take part. He, Postmaster Jim Dillman and the #2 USPS guy, Ruben Fabella, soon found themselves in a makeshift studio responding to a series of questions from me. (I wish I still had a copy of the four videos that we developed.) And, yes, there are many more "slices of life" in my head that I just don't have enough space to articulate.

I suppose that there are numerous ways to take the measure of a man. One particular good Bible yardstick is Matthew 7:15-20. Paul *was* a good man who, thankfully, bore good fruit in many diverse arenas.

BASIL ZUNIGA

Whether you expected it or not, it is fitting that Paul Alexander have "the last word"... These are excerpts from some articles Paul wrote for our newsletter as President.

"...for those of you that for whatever reason could not attend the Oldtimers and MDA Appreciation Dinner Dance in August, you really missed a good time and good food! I would like to thank all of the members and their spouses who helped put this together. For fear of missing a name (they know who they are), I won't attempt to list them all.

I will, however, mention Basil Zuniga and his wife, Marcelle; and Richard and Ann Suniga; and, last (but not least) our office manager, Terri Guerra. These people put in a tremendous amount of their own time to coordinate our extremely successful MDA Drive.

It is people like these that make things happen and there are more of you out there that can make this Branch even better! All you need to do is make the decision to get involved.

Branch 782 isn't "my" Branch; it's "your" Branch..."

August - September 1985 message

"...I have seen many new names on Branch 782's membership list and have been present during their acceptance into the NALC and this Branch, but I haven't seen too many of them at the Branch meetings. When I first started 20 years ago, I didn't know all the answers. I still don't. But, thanks to my involvement with the Association of Letter Carriers, I know the places to start looking for those answers. How about you? ... "

October 1985 message

"...All I can say is, "Do your job the way you are supposed to do it. Do it this way every day. Don't compromise on safety. Don't sacrifice courtesy. Your patrons can be our best friends or they can be our worst enemies ... "

March 1986 message

"...Management needs to reassess the fundamental priorities and mission of the USPS. Do you know why? Your supervisor doesn't want you to attempt that Certified Letter (takes too much time). The supervisor doesn't want you to make an attempt to deliver that parcel (takes too much time). Your supervisor doesn't want you to pick up that outgoing mail if you don't have any mail to deliver to that location (takes too much time).

All of these services which "take too much time" are the reason for which we are called the U.S. Postal Service ... "

January 1987 message

"...In Postal Life magazine, a recent featured article was "In Search of Excellence". If you haven't read it, I would strongly suggest that you do.

This article explains succinctly and exactly what we have been doing wrong: 'Cost control is essential to be sure. But, only the foolish will rush so hard to go lean and mean that they compromise the Quality of Service.'

We have been doing this for years. The mentaility of management has been more geared to "Budget" than to the more important area of importance: Our Customers! ... "

December 1987 message

"...Brothers and Sisters,

Sometimes, when things change, I like to reflect on what type of things led to the changes.

During 25 years of carrying mail (seventeen of those years spent as a Branch 782 Officer), I have been involved in many activities on behalf of Letter Carriers.

I can remember when, really, there were no provisions for dealing with Management on issues of concern to Letter Carriers. But this is changing ... "

> August - September 1988 message* Paul Alexander's Last President's Report



CROSSOVER CHURCH OF ROSEDALE Saturday February I, 2020, 10:30am

GreetingPastor Norm Aycock	
Obituary ReadingPastor Norm Aycock	
PrayerPastor Norm Aycock	
Song- "Old Rugged Cross" Johnny C ash	
Family MemoriesPastor Kyle Hogg	
Invitation to speak	
Slideshow with music "The Cowboy Rides Away" George Strait "G.I. Blues" Elvis Presley "Troubadour" George Strait	
MessagePastor Kyle Hogg	
Song – "Amazing Grace" Johnny C ash	
Closing PrayerPastor Norm Aycock	
Closing Music – "I'll Fly Away" Johnny Cash	
Marine Honor Guard – Outside after Service	

Paul, Rest in Peace because of Luke 23:42-43