



# 55<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group



and  
442ND AIR SERVICE GROUP  
ASSOCIATION



## FW

2/29/2008

: "FOLDED WINGS REPORT" :

DEC 21 2007

ALBA, Michael

LTC  
USAF  
(RET.)

ASN : 0 760 219

14135 Westchester Drive  
Colorado Springs, CA  
80921-2851

PILOT

338/55

[719-481-8318]

AUTH. : Ivy M. Alba (Widow) - Ltr. 2/6/2008

Rec'd. : 2/9/2008

### MICHAEL ALBA



March 23, 1917–December 21, 2007. Lt. Col. Michael Alba, USAF (Ret) died comfortably at home on December 21, 2007 from a long battle with kidney failure. He was born in Pasadena, California, and was raised in Simi Valley. He graduated from the University of Redlands on a full tennis scholarship in 1942 and, in 1943, and was commissioned as a second Lieutenant in the Army Air Force from the Aviation Cadet program. During World War II, he served as a P-38 and P-51 fighter pilot in the 55th Fighter Group in England. Subsequently, he served throughout Latin America as an Air Attaché, Air Operations Officer and a member of the Inter-American Defense Board. Notably, he served as an advisor on

Operations and Training to Venezuela, Uruguay and Honduras; and was instrumental in the successful creation of their respective Air Corps. At one point, Lt. Col. Alba was so highly regarded that he was sought after by the Honduran government to head its Air Corp. His awards include: the Air Force Distinguished Flying Cross, 9 Air Medals, WWII Victory Medal and Presidential Unit Citation; along with many formal recognition's from several foreign military organizations. He served as President of the 55th Fighter Group and 442 Air Service Group Association where he was instrumental in the dedication of the P-38 and P-51 memorials at the USAF Academy. In addition, he was known as an avid golfer and was lovingly known to his friends as "the greatest 80-year-old golfer." Left to mourn are: his wife Ivy; his two daughters Michele Bridges (Ron) and Victoria; his four stepsons Rex, David, Gilbert and Gordon; his brothers Bob, Andy, Kinteen, Danny; his sisters Irene, Mary, Emily, and Helen; his 1st cousins Gloria Smith (Larry) and Gil Mays (Ines); his grandchildren Heather Doyle (Sean), David, Kelly Ayn, and Tyler; his great grandchildren Trevor, Caroline and Evelyn Doyle; and, David, Michael Joseph Bridges; mother of his children, ex-wife, Dorothy; and many friends. He was predeceased by his parents Kinteen and Carmen; brothers Bill, Cipriano and Pete; and his sister Lupe. Inurnment will be at the Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington and an intimate memorial will be held back in Colorado Springs-time and place to be announced. It is requested, in lieu of flowers, donations to honor Mike may be made to the charity of your choice.

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Notice • Guest Book • Flowers • Gift Shop • Charities

*JPK*

MAR - 5 2008

ALBA, Michael