



Albert Alu

January 5, 1942 - December 2, 2014

January 5, 1942, to December 2, 2014. Actor, artist, and arts educator, Al Alu died at his home in Los Angeles of complications from cancer. He is survived by his loving companion and wife of 28 years, Tamara Blustein; his ex-wife, Cheryl Alu; cousins and many friends. And a special thanks to his caretaker, Ed Crucena.

Born in Pittsburgh, Al started out as a singer while still a teenager and began his professional stage career at The Pittsburgh Playhouse in 1962. In 1965, he was selected by director William Ball to be a founding member of American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco, along with such notables as Rene Aberjonois, Peter Donat, Michael Learned, Richard Dysart, Paul Shenar, and Kitty Winn.

In 1966, Al was featured in Ball's controversial but acclaimed staging of Edward Albee's "Tiny Alice". In 1968, Al accepted an invitation from Mark Taper Forum artistic director Gordon Davidson to travel to Los Angeles to audition for the 1968-69 season. Al appeared in six productions over the next three seasons, including Othello with James Earl Jones and King Richard II with Richard Chamberlain. In 1972, Al reprised his role of Conrad Birdie in "Bye Bye Birdie", starring Chita Rivera and Orson Bean at The Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera. During the early 70s, Al lent his artistic talents to the building of a replica of London's Old Globe Theater, as the home of newly

founded Shakespeare Society of America in West Hollywood. In 1975, Al became a founding member of Theater Arts Program/Los Angeles (TAPLA). For four years, Al performed in a vast range of stage fare, from children's theater to Shakespeare, in schools and public facilities throughout the LA area.

Following the demise of TAPLA, Al toured with Gretchen Cryer's Off-Broadway hit, "I'm Getting My Act Together and Taking It on the Road" (1982), performing at the Huntington Hartford Theater in LA. In 1990, Al retired from film and stage work and took up arts education, teaching at the City of LA's Museum of Art in Barnsdall Park. Al's last foray into acting occurred in 2003 when he recorded Dylan Thomas's "A Child's Christmas in Wales" at the studios of KPFK Radio.

It made its debut nationally over the Pacifica Radio Network on Christmas Day 2003. It is now broadcast annually on Pacifica Radio. In 2012, it also aired on BBC Radio in Great Britain. Al was an avid reader and collector of books, and as an artist, he created and exhibited his architectural models of iconic Los Angeles landmarks such as the Formosa Café, El Coyote Restaurant, Pink's Hot Dog Stand, Canyon Country Store, The New Beverly Cinema and others.

You are invited back to our house following the service for a reception - My phone is (323) 734-6179 or cell: (323) 405-5116.

If you would care to say a few words about Al (always welcome), please contact Julio Martinez at julima720@gmail.com or (818) 648-6128. Julio will be coordinating the service.

960 Westchester Place, LA 90019. My phone is (323) 734-6179 or cell: (323) 405-5116.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

FEB 7. 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM (PT)

Barnsdall Gallery Theatre
4800 Hollywood Blvd.
Hollywood, CA

Tribute Wall



“ *Reflecting on Memories created a Tribute Video in memory of Albert Alu*



Reflecting on Memories - January 09, 2015 at 10:49 AM

VS

Beautiful video, amazing life!!

vickie skilan - February 07, 2015 at 10:29 PM

BL

A life lived fully with love and gusto leaves footprints in the hearts of all who share the trail...we miss you Al

Bob little - February 09, 2015 at 07:50 AM

IL

How beautifully his life was captured on this film. Al was a remarkable man, fun loving, gregarious and so full of life. Al's presence will always be with us. We loved him.

Irma LaRose - February 09, 2015 at 10:40 AM

AW

*Few words! Beautiful man! Lovely couple! Stunning photos!
Magnificent memories!
Two blessed lives!*

Ann Weber Wagner - February 09, 2015 at 05:10 PM

SC

Al was like a star in the heavens that shone with brilliance and beauty for a time and then left leaving the world a little less bright without him. We will miss him.

Sara and Bob Cannon

Sara and Bob Cannon - February 09, 2015 at 11:10 PM



“ 87 files added to the album Memories Album



Reflecting on Memories - January 28, 2015 at 11:30 PM