

Stamatios Gus Alexander, Jr.

Stamatios Gus Alexander, Jr. was born in Cleburne, Texas on June 11, 1944. His family moved to Duncanville, Texas in January, 1946 where he spent the rest of his youth. Gus Jr. attended elementary school (Central Elementary), junior high and high school in Duncanville. While in High School, he lettered 4 years in football, 4 years in baseball, 3 years in basketball, and served as captain or co-captain of the team for each sport. Gus Jr. played on two championship basketball teams, played on two championship baseball teams making all district with the team going as far as a team could progress (winning regional honors). In football he was district and state honorable mention on the district championship team. Gus Jr. excelled as a scholar as well as an athlete. He earned a place on the honor roll for academic achievement. During his senior year his friends chose him as their "Class Favorite". He was also a member of the First United Methodist Church.



Gus Jr. was awarded a football scholarship to McMurry University in Abilene, Texas and was a member of the football team. After two years there, he transferred to the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) and graduated from there with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in 1967. While attending UTA, Gus married Kathy Loper in 1966 and worked at American Bank and Trust in Dallas, Texas. Upon graduation from UTA, Gus enlisted in the U.S. Army and received his basic training at Fort Dix, New Jersey. He then attended Officers Training School at Fort Benning, Georgia. After being commissioned an officer in August 1968, he served as an instructor at the school. Prior to being stationed in Vietnam in 1969, Gus attended training in Panama. While serving in Vietnam, Gus was killed in action ([see the related news article](#)). While serving in the U.S. Army, Gus was awarded 11 medals – the highest being the Silver Star for [heroism](#).

Several honors have been bestowed on Gus since his great sacrifice. The American Legion Post 111 located in Cedar Hill, Texas was named in his honor in 1993; the [Alexander Elementary School](#) in Duncanville, Texas was named after him in 1973; and, the [Youth Center at the First United Methodist Church](#) in Duncanville, Texas was built and dedicated in his honor on November 17, 1974. The Youth Center was built with contributions from the church, family and friends and contains a gymnasium, snack bar, library and recreation room for youth as well as providing classrooms for youth and adult Sunday school. The effort to build the Youth Center was organized by his wife, Kathy. A large mural in Gus' honor is also displayed in the Youth Center.

It goes without saying that Post 111 is very proud to carry his name and we, the members of Post 111, want to gratefully thank and acknowledge Gus Jr. for serving his country and making the greatest sacrifice a human being and soldier can possibly make. God Bless!