



2003 Knife Maker's
Hall of Fame Inductee



2003 Blade Show in Atlanta

Speech by Tim Hancock

I am honored and humbled to present to you our newest inductee to the Knife Maker's Hall of Fame.

From the outside, one might think that this man started out his journey like anyone else, with a lot of ambition and a big dream. This is true, but what's different about him is that he has a God given talent and a special way about him that have truly set him apart from the crowd.

The man I am talking about has made knives for over 37 years. He has no doubt made lots of knives of many different styles, but in general he has been doing it his way, making hunting knives.

His knives embody his philosophy of art and his dedication to great work and business ethics. He has no doubt made a friend of everyone to whom he has sold a knife.

He also saw the need to shape the future of the industry that he loved. He has spent 23 years devoted to the betterment of the Knife Maker's Guild. He served as a board member, Treasurer, Vice President, and multiple terms as President.

As if this wasn't enough, he devoted more of his precious time to other organizations such as the Arizona Knife Makers Association, the Arizona Knife Collectors Association and was also a charter member to the American Knife and Tool Institute.

In his spare time he has advised, mentored, and counseled volumes of fellow knife enthusiasts, knife promoters, and budding knife makers in

their pursuits in this industry. To put it simply: those of us who know him personally would say that his most amazing trait is his unselfish devotion to helping others.

He has exemplary work ethic that few other makers, if any, have matched. The knives he makes are like an extension of his signature. They stand out in a crowd as HIS without seeing the name on the knife.

Like most great men, he has a great wife who supported him in his many ventures in the knife world. I am certain that she has played an important role in his success.

The man that I am talking about would say that he is just a Knife Maker. In fact he jokes about the ratio of dirt and debris that is made in the production of a knife. When asked, "D, what are you doing?", his common response is "making dirt". He has no doubt made more than dirt and knives. He has made a real mark in the world of knifemaking.

This man is a pillar of this industry and deserves to go down in the annals of history as a great man. I present to you the newest member of the Knife Maker's Hall of Fame, D'Alton Holder.

D' will you please come up and receive the award you so greatly deserve.

Thank you,

Tim Hancock