



# Town of Ajax Street Dedication



Street Name: **Chambers Drive**

Name of Veteran: Alfred Joseph Chambers Sept. 2, 1920-May 16, 2001

Rank: Able Seaman

Ship Served: HMS Ajax

Date of Service on Ship: 1939

Year of Visit/Dedication: October 2008

Veteran or Family Visit: Son and daughters, Edward (wife Sharon), Margaret (husband Terry), Ann (husband James) and grandson Del

Veteran of the Battle of the River Plate: Yes Died at Battle: No

Alfred Joseph Hazelwood Chambers was born on September 2, 1920 in Harwich, Essex. He was the eldest of three sons. All served during World War Two, Alfred in the Royal Navy and brothers Leslie and Gordon in the Merchant Navy.

Alfred joined the Royal Navy on February 15, 1937 as a Boy 2<sup>nd</sup> Class. It wasn't until August 1939 that he joined HMS Ajax and was rated as an Able Seaman at the time of the Battle of the River Plate a few months later. Alfred left the Ajax in August 1940 and was discharged from the Royal Navy in 1955 after serving on several ships and at various naval bases.



Alf (right) with a shipmate of HMS Ganges



Petty Officer Chambers

Alfred married Mary Ann Olive Brighard on February 10, 1944 and had three children; Edward, Margaret and Ann. His favorite pastime was angling.

Family describe Alfred as a very private man who preferred not to talk of his war experiences. His life revolved around his family and his love of nature. His draw to the water transferred into his civilian life through his appointment as a fishing bailiff. He died on May 16, 2001 at the age of 81.

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