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Heath et al.

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[54] **INFLATABLE LIFE VEST**

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

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An inflatable life vest comprises two sheets of polymeric material. The edges of these sheets are sealed to form an inner cavity with a plurality of discrete, inflatable chambers disposed in a U-shaped pattern to define collar and chest portions of the life vest. A manifold connects to an inflation source and has a plurality of openings. A check valve connects each manifold opening with one of the chambers to permit inflation medium flow into the chamber and to block inflation medium flow outwardly from a chamber into the manifold. This construction isolates the chambers from one another so the rupture of one chamber does not affect the ability of the other chambers to be buoyant.

[51] Int. Cl.⁶ **B63C 9/08**

[52] U.S. Cl. **441/118**

[58] Field of Search 441/80, 91, 92,
441/96, 108, 118, 88

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13 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets

