Mr. Michael Drew Elliott, age 65 of Bellaire (Houston), TX, passed away Sunday, January 10, 2010, at his residence. Mr. Elliott was born November 3, 1944, in Crockett, TX, to Janice Hooks and Drew Mundell Elliott.

Among his many accomplishments, he was a semi-finalist in the Golden Gloves boxing competition. Mr. Elliott served in the Marines Corps from 1965-1967 in Vietnam with E Company, 2nd Battalion, First Marines, 1st Marine Division, receiving the purple heart, resulting in full disability; with dignity and style, he spent 43 years in a wheelchair. Mr. Elliott was a 1963 graduate of Jesse H. Jones High School and later received a BA in Accounting and MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Houston.

An avid scholar, historian, genealogist, activist, and seeker of the truth(s), he mentored and influenced many young minds, including his nephew, Glenn, whom he thought of as an "adopted" son, and Kristi Zwarth Hayduk whom he considered a daughter. Kristi's children, Jesse, Aaron, and Sheridan, are thankful to have gained both a wealth of knowledge and constant encouragement from the presence of this fascinating man in their lives.

Mr. Elliott lead by example, extolling the presence and power of an education. As a result, both Glenn and Kristi were persuaded to seek higher education and obtained Master's Degrees in English and Psychology, respectively. He also taught and mentored outside of this extended family while volunteering for several years as a creative writing teacher at Houston's High School for Performing and Visual Arts, helping to develop not only students' writing abilities, but their artistic sensibilities as well.
Survivors include his brother, Patrick R. Elliott, Sr., of Brenham; sister Karen and husband Jerry Smith, of Henderson (Goodsprings Community); sister Janell Elliott Ross, of Austin; uncle Lloyd Hooks, of Huntsville; cousin David Peck, of Austin; a niece and two nephews.

Preceded in death by his parents Drew M. Elliott and Janice Hooks Elliott; nephew Glenn Riley Elliott; grandparents Riley and Sallie Hooks of Latexo and grandparents Coley and Pearl Elliott of Normangee.

Military Graveside Services for Mr. Michael Drew Elliott were held on Saturday, January 30, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. at Latexo Cemetery.

No flowers please. Donations may be made to the charity of your choice (or to the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center Spinal Cord Injury Unit).

A celebration of Mike’s life for family and friends will be forthcoming. Please send your contact info to this email address for future information and invitation regarding the event: elliottlife10@yahoo.com.

Callaway-Allee Funeral Home