



Wayne I. Elliot

July 17, 1928 - June 30, 2024

North Hampton - Wayne I. Elliot, age 95, passed away at his home in North Hampton on Sunday, June 30th, surrounded by his loving family.

Wayne was born July 17th, 1928 at Portsmouth Hospital, son to Alzena (Leavitt) and William Elliot. His mother's family, the Leavitts, were direct descendants of Thomas Leavitt, a founding father of the Town of Hampton in 1638. Wayne grew up on Dearborn Avenue, known then as Shoestring Alley. After graduating from Hampton Academy and High School in 1946, where he was vice-president of his class, he attended Duke University for 2 years. There, he was a member of the baseball team, coached by Jack Coombs, a former major league baseball pitcher. He finished his college education at the University of New Hampshire, and also took graduate classes at Keene State and Plymouth State Universities.

Wayne started working at the age of 13, renting beach umbrellas at Hampton Beach, and from there, became the assistant baggage master for the B & M Railroad at the Hampton Depot. Working for the late Harry Carter, he mastered the trades of stone masonry, brick layer and plasterer. He was also a reporter and photographer for the Hampton Union, and president and part-owner of the Elliot Insurance Agency with his father, Bill.

Wayne was an English teacher for 25 years at North Hampton Elementary

School, serving also as an administrator for 19 of those years. In addition to his teaching and administrative duties, he served also as the baseball coach, started the photography club, was the drama director, and originated the Oratorical Contest, which was named after him and took place for over 50 years, well after he retired in 1989. He was a most beloved and respected teacher. He felt his goal as a teacher was not just to impart the English language and love of literature to his students, but to help prepare them for life, to believe in themselves, and to encourage them to always do and be their very best.

As a lifelong member of the United Methodist Church of Hampton, he served in many capacities over his lifetime: choir member, lay leader, trustee, administrative board member and Sunday School teacher.

Designated as platoon leader, Wayne was a proud Marine Corps veteran, having served stateside during the Korean War. He served the community youth by coaching various sports, was active with the Boy Scouts for over 50 years, served on many school committees and was a member of the Winnacunnet and Hampton Academy Alumni Board of Trustees, participated with the various Winnacunnet High School sports boosters clubs, and was the Rye Recreation director for several summers.

A proud Mason, Wayne was a member of Saint James Lodge #102 of Hampton, the Valley of Portsmouth/Dover Scottish Rite and New Hampshire Consistory. He was recognized by the New Hampshire Council of Deliberation with the Meritorious Service Award in 2006, and was conferred with the 33rd Degree by the Scottish Rite Supreme Council Northern Masonic Jurisdiction in 2015. He was most proud of his work with the Children's Dyslexia Centers, a Scottish Rite charity equipping students with the confidence and skills to approach learning with eagerness and without fear. He served as chairman of the Board of Governors for the Children's Dyslexia Center of Nashua and was also instrumental in the startup of the Seacoast Children's Dyslexia Center

located in Rochester, NH.

Wayne married Betty McDade, the love of his life in 1950, and they were together for almost 70 years before her passing in 2020. Living first in Hampton, they moved to the home they built in North Hampton in 1960, where they raised their 3 children. Together, they enjoyed gardening, town concerts, birdwatching, spending time both at Wolfeboro Campground and on Lake Winnepesaukee with family, canoeing, reading and attending their family's sports games and events. They were both members of the 234 Club, having visited all the 234 towns and cities of New Hampshire.

Wayne loved to write, and was known for his thank you notes and words of encouragement. He always gave a strong handshake, and encouraged others to do the same. He was skilled at woodworking and building stone walls. He loved his flag and his country, and proudly raised the flag everyday on the pole in his backyard, which he and his grandson erected. He loved to salute the flag and sing the national anthem. He loved to recite poetry and read the Bible. He loved his church and his community. He loved riding his lawnmower and being outdoors. Most of all he loved his family.

Wayne leaves behind his children: Teresa J. (Elliot) Rezendes of Exeter, NH; Richard W. and Kathleen Elliot of Hampton, NH; and David W. and Rachel Elliot of Northwood, NH. He loved and was proud of his grandchildren: Todd Dunphy and wife Robyn Moreau; Jennifer Dunphy and husband Michael Grant; Michael Rezendes and wife Kristin; Timothy Rezendes; Zachery Elliot; and Alexandra Elliot; and his great-grandchildren: Ryan-John Scribner and wife Paige; Zachary Scribner; Tyler Scribner; Allison Fitzpatrick; Owen Dunphy; Cameron Dunphy; Marley Rezendes; and Piper Rezendes.

He is survived by his sisters: Mrs. Richard (June Elliot) Chevalier and Mrs.

Larry (Holly Elliot) Knowles; and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his wife, Betty; his parents; his in-laws, William and Sybella McDade; his brothers-in-law William McDade and Richard Chevalier; and his son-in-law Richard Rezendes.

The family would like to extend its thanks to Rockingham VNA and Hospice and to the Oncology Department of Exeter Hospital, whose representatives gave their loving and devoted care to Wayne.

Services (and Wayne's final Lesson Plan) will be held on Friday, July 12th, at the Hampton United Methodist Church with a Masonic service at 10:30am and a Celebration of Life at 11am. A graveside service will immediately follow at High Street Cemetery, and all are invited back afterwards to the church for refreshments and visit with the family. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Wayne I. Elliot Scholarship, Winnacunnet Dollars for Scholars, c/o Susan Brooks, PO Box 1593, North Hampton, NH, 03862; Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc., c/o Seacoast Children's Dyslexia Center, 33 Hanson Street, Rochester, NH 03867; or to Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc., c/o Children's Dyslexia Center of Nashua, 200 Main Street, Nashua, NH 03060.

Cemetery Details

High Street Cemetery

150 High Street
Hampton, NH

Previous Events

Masonic Service

JUL 12. 10:30 AM (ET)

Hampton United Methodist Church
525 Lafayette Road
Hampton, NH

Celebration of Life

JUL 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

Hampton United Methodist Church
525 Lafayette Road
Hampton, NH

Tribute Wall

JE

“ I was blessed to have Mr Elliot as my English teacher in 1965-66. Of all the wonderful teachers I was fortunate enough to have, bar none, he was the finest. It was an honor and a privilege.

*Jill (Larsen) Edwards
Class of 1966 NHES*

Jill Edwards - February 19, 2025 at 02:15 AM

JD

“ What a teacher and man. His family came to our camp in Maine and oh the fun they had. Will never forget you Mr. Elliot. Jeannie (McKowen) Daniels

Jeannie Daniels - October 07, 2024 at 12:43 PM

MC

“ I had the very good fortune of being a student in Mr. Elliot's 7th & 8th grade Literature classes (in addition to 8th grade English) as well as being a member of the '75, '76 & '77 junior high baseball teams. Regardless of whether the setting was academic or extra-curricular in nature, the lessons taught (and the instruction provided) had a common thread that wove through all that we received from Mr. Elliot - to provide us with a solid foundation that would properly prepare and serve us well for the pursuits of our choice(s) upon graduation from NHES. To this day, many of his lessons and teachings (e.g. from the conventions of sentence structure, punctuation and spelling to the appreciation for classical literature and the benefits it provided through enhanced writing, thinking and problem solving skills to the 8th grade English project of writing a term paper - who can forget those 3" x 5" notecards?!) are utilized by me on a consistent basis, both professionally and personally, and have proven extremely beneficial over the past 47+ years.

Every school - and every town - deserves a Wayne I. Elliot as his commitment to the community and those that comprise it are the better because of his dedicated nature and his tireless work ethic. How fortunate I was to have been a student of Mr. Elliot's and a member of the North Hampton community that he called home...a community made better because of his devoted presence and his generous spirit.

- Matthew Casey
San Francisco
NHES Class of '77

Matthew Casey - July 22, 2024 at 04:43 PM

LF

“ Mr. Elliot was my 8th grade English teacher at North Hampton Elementary School. What an enlightened, positive man he was and an amazing teacher. I truly think he contributed to my love of reading and writing. He always had a smile and a kind word to share. May he rest in peace and may his family heal gently.

Linda Forsberg-Bean - July 15, 2024 at 01:03 PM

SJ

“ Mr. Elliot was my 8th grade English teacher and he taught me to love grammar. He taught me to spell correctly and to write well and to stand up in front of people to deliver a speech. He taught me how to diagram sentences and identify the role each word played in the sentence. I have now spent a lifetime working with languages of all sorts, analyzing different grammar systems, creating an alphabet and translating from one language into another, currently using AI to do the preliminary work of preparing texts for a computer program that will translate for us. I've come a long way, Mr. Elliot. Thank you for all you taught me. I hope I've done you proud.

sue goddard jenkins - July 12, 2024 at 03:43 PM

JP

“ Mr. Elliot would call my office, with a small electrical problem or project he wanted done. Upon completion of whatever it was, I invariably would receive a phone call or hand written note of thanks. He would tell me how great the guy was I sent over and how well the job was completed. Always positive! Terry, Rich, and Dave, you Dad was a gentleman through and through. He taught me lessons later in life, since I wasn't a student of his growing up. Rich and Dave, beautiful speaking today at the service.

Jim Parsons

James Parsons - July 12, 2024 at 12:38 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Wayne I. Elliot.



July 10, 2024 at 08:01 PM



“ Chad, Christine, Emily & Leiland planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wayne I. Elliot.

Chad, Christine, Emily & Leiland - July 10, 2024 at 08:01 PM



“ Mr. Elliott's presentation of his Scholarship to a graduating senior at Winnacunnet on Awards Night every June has been one of the highlights of the evening. What a wonderful man and lifelong educator!
Melinda Shofner, Winnacunnet High School Counselor

Melinda Shofner - July 09, 2024 at 03:11 PM



An extraordinary man, beloved by so many. My deepest sympathy to the entire family 🙏🌸❤️

Mark and Betsy (Chevalier) Peck - July 12, 2024 at 08:15 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Wayne I. Elliot.



July 09, 2024 at 02:32 PM



“ M&L, CDC, and K & A planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wayne I. Elliot.

M&L, CDC, and K & A - July 09, 2024 at 02:32 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Wayne I. Elliot.



July 09, 2024 at 01:42 PM



“ Your M.L. McDonald Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wayne I. Elliot.

Your M.L. McDonald Family - July 09, 2024 at 01:42 PM

LT

“ How I loved Mr. Elliot, and always will cherish his role in my life. From gradeschool through this day, his teachings shape me. I still can recite my opratorical speach, I have been journalling every day since he taught us the importance of the written word. Yes, every day since we were preteens! Yep, that's alot of books. When Mr. Elliot would attend the Hampton Academy/WHS alumni luncheon, I immediatly looked for him to give a hug. Along with these North Hampton classmates, we were able to do so often, and with Mrs. Brown too. I cherish my upbringing and will always keep Mr. Elliot alive in my heart. Peace be with David, your brother and sister, the families and all who had the gift of Mr. Elliot in their lives.



Laurie Tourtellot - July 09, 2024 at 12:35 PM

DL

“ As you get older, you are often asked who your favorite teacher was growing up. My answer was easy, and I am sure countless others that attended NHES would agree that it was always Mr. Elliot. He taught my least favorite subject but taught me so much more than English. He was a wonderful baseball coach and a tremendous influence on thousands of young men and woman that had the pleasure of coming through his classroom.

I was always amazed at how he remembered all of his students through the years. The last time I saw him was a few year's ago in Joe's Meat Shoppe with my son and he remembered my son's name whom he had only met once before.

He was such a kind gentleman and a wonderful teacher and he will be missed by all that had the pleasure to know him.

My heartfelt condolences to his family.

Don Lamprey

Don Lamprey - July 08, 2024 at 02:42 PM

ML

“ we are so very sorry to hear about the passing of Mr. Elliot So glad i got to sit with him the Weds before his passing. brought him his favorite soup Chicken Rice he loved soup ! i even remembered in 7&8 grade soup for lunch. we talk wanted to know why he was still here, i said. the man up above is just not ready for a great man like you. and he always asked me how many years you driving the bus. before i could answer he said i think you told me 45. yes that is right. i don't know how you do it these days. well i learned a lot from your class. goodbye my dear friend , teacher the town of North Hampton is going to miss Mr Elliot. RIP and go be with Betty Mary Lambert

Mary Lambert - July 08, 2024 at 12:27 PM

JL

“ June, Charlie and Cindy, Tom and Laci.. purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of Wayne I. Elliot.



June, Charlie and Cindy, Tom and Laci.. - July 08, 2024 at 09:07 AM

FB

“ Wayne was a true gentleman.

His devotion to civic duty and the advancement of scholastic excellence has been an enduring treasure in the Town of North Hampton. Wayne's legacy should be a lesson to us all on what it really means to give back.

Both Judi and I wish to extend our deepest condolences to the Elliott family.

Frank Breen

Frank Breen - July 07, 2024 at 08:15 AM

TR

“ Mr. Elliot, I have thought about you often over the years since 8th grade English class, as you had a such an impact on me academically and personally. You truly were a gem among humans. Godspeed, and thank you for everything.

Tracy (Peters) Rud

Tracy Rud - July 06, 2024 at 07:20 PM

RS

“ I will always be grateful for knowing Mr. Elliot.

Ralph C. Filley Sr. - July 06, 2024 at 05:03 PM

GP

“ Syl and I will miss Wayne a great deal. I have known him for many years now, having worked with him and his father Bill at the Hampton Beach Sea Shell in the mid 60's. Wayne was as hard a worker as I ever knew, and always with a positive attitude. Syl worked with him for several years at the North Hampton Elementary School, where again, his work ethic was a model for everyone.

What a varied and successful life he lived! A truly humble gentleman.

Greg Pickering - July 05, 2024 at 03:34 PM

LR

“ Love, Tyler, Lauren, Lydia, Owen, Ryan purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Wayne I. Elliot.



Love, Tyler, Lauren, Lydia, Owen, Ryan - July 05, 2024 at 01:04 PM

RK

“ When I think of Mr. Elliot I think of his calming presence. I was a class clown for half of junior high school but when I was assigned his classroom, I had the opportunity to slow down and think about my behavior and begin to contemplate my future. What I remember most vividly is his modeling of respect, his belief in our abilities, and the seriousness with which he conducted himself. He really helped me to have a change of heart and mind. I ended up doing well in school after that and became a teacher myself. Remarkably, because of a friend from North Hampton who encouraged me to contact Mr. Elliot, I was able to talk with him on the phone briefly the day before he passed. I will carry on your example, Mr. Elliot! Thanks for your love and concern for all of us who were blessed to have known you.

Ross J King - July 04, 2024 at 02:47 PM

PA

“*Mr. Elliott was an extraordinary person, an amazing coach, and an inspirational teacher. His lessons from 8th grade have stayed with me ever since, influencing me even today. Every time I present in front of a crowd, I hear his voice from the Oratorical competition, guiding my delivery. His instruction on proper footnoting and paper structure in 8th grade became a foundation I built upon throughout college research papers. He was more than just a teacher; he was a true mentor who left a tremendous impact on countless lives. I hope my children have the fortune of encountering such a remarkable educator someday. Mr. Elliott is a shining example of those rare people who leave a permanent mark, a teacher you carry with you forever.*

To Mr. Elliott's family, please accept my deepest condolences. He leaves behind a legacy of empowering young people to be decent, caring individuals, and his memory will continue to inspire.

*Paul Downey
NHES Class of '82*

Paul - July 04, 2024 at 12:02 PM

DV

“*Mr Elliot was the best! Such an amazing teacher and a true listener. I cant tel you how many times I would rant about this or that, and he would listen with wide ears to every word. I remember his scooter, and how he was part of every little nook and cranny of the school and town. He will be missed greatly by all those lives he touched. My condolences to the Elliot family, and may his stories live on!*

Dan Vermeersch - July 04, 2024 at 07:22 AM

AR

Wayne Elliot was a North Hampton Hometown Hero. Beloved by his fortunate students and by all of us who were lucky enough to know him. I have very fond memories of he and Betty coming into The Cranberry Bog, almost always together and always with smiles. Honored to have known such an amazing, dedicated and loving member of our community.

Alison Robie - July 04, 2024 at 10:02 AM

DM

“ *There will never be enough words to express my sincere condolences to the entire Elliot Family during this time of pain. Mr. Elliot was the best teacher I ever had and he cared so much for every student he taught. He showed it in every word spoken and each look he gave us. To this day I still can hear his voice reminding us to always carry a dime in case you need to make a phone call!! God Bless and may all the memories you shared together help ease the pain of such a great loss. Donna Meyer-Miller*



Donna M Meyer Miller - July 04, 2024 at 12:21 AM



“ *Thank you to an amazing human who had a profound lifelong effect on me as a writer, as a speaker, as a photographer, and as a teacher. But more than that, thank you for having a profound impact on the Cuetara family. Your kindness, intelligence, inquisitive heart, and always positive outlook was a blessing on my father, who admired and respected you, on my mother who adored you and will miss you tremendously, and on my brother who looked up to you as a role model and man of great character. Thank you Mr Elliot, may you rest in the sublime provenance of the reality that you lived well and your legacy lives on in those of us who were so blessed to have you as a teacher, a mentor, and a friend.*

Kimberly Gibbons - July 03, 2024 at 11:26 PM

HK

“ Wonderful to read these memories. What a special man: a proud Seacoast native, an old-school teacher, and a champion of his legions of students. I was lucky enough to have Mr. Elliot in North Hampton Elementary School junior high, class of 1966 (!) Forty years later, when I was living in LA, I received a large envelope (my mother had run into him at the supermarket) from him full of old papers I'd written, ancient photos cut out of the Portsmouth Herald, and a beautiful personal note. Who keeps archives on their students going back 40 years? I, too, have remembered him with great respect and affection all these years and feel a real pang at his passing. Deep sympathy to his family and many friends--eternal thanks, Mr. Elliot.

Heather King - July 03, 2024 at 10:22 PM

SM

“ To the family: The last time I saw Mr. Elliot was Tuesday June 25, 2024, My cousin took me to see him (she wasn't feeling well so she stayed in the car)

After following the instructions written on the garage door (to open the door and yell) I approached Mr. Elliot whose first words were, “thank you for coming you'll have to excuse me I've been a little under the weather lately.” In true form, forever the optimist.

Mr. Elliot and I had been writing back and forth for several years. He always said “ Now you know I have always told my students, If you write to me I will write back. “ , and he always did! And “Stop by if you are ever in the area, I always love to see my students.”

When I returned home to California on the 26th, there was a letter waiting for me. I sent one back with a poem for him. Which was prompted by something he said to me the day before, “I don't know why I am still here.” I am glad he was still here so I could thank him for the positive impact he had on my life.

He was the listening ear, the encourager, the fulcrum to our success. He was the hero for those of us who never thought we were quite good enough. He believed in us so we would believe in ourselves. He wanted all of his students to be their best.

It is important for all of you to know how much all of his students loved and respected him. David, Terry, and Richard thank you for sharing your father with all of “us kids”, when you were growing up.

We share in your sorrow yet rejoice with him in his victory he won the battle and is finally with his dear wife.

With sincere gratitude,
Sheila (Knowles) Merten

Sheila Merten - July 03, 2024 at 08:01 PM

VC

“ To all the family. An amazing Uncle, wonderful person. He will be dearly missed as is Aunt Betty. They will never be forgotten. Thoughts, prayers and love to all.

Verne Carraro - July 03, 2024 at 07:25 PM

KS

“ Thanks for being a great teacher and amazing human!❤️

Kathy Savage-Slevoski - July 03, 2024 at 05:15 PM

AC

“ I met Mr. & Mrs. Elliot when they brought Terry to NYC in June 1974 where she and I began our Medical Laboratory internship. They were nervous about leaving her there, but I assured them she would be OK. This began a friendship that has spanned decades. After graduation, Terry and her parents returned the favor helping me settle in NH. They were a wonderful couple and I know he missed her terribly when she passed.

Atinuke Cahill - July 03, 2024 at 04:39 PM

AM

“ Atinuke & Michael purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Wayne I. Elliot.



Atinuke & Michael - July 03, 2024 at 04:26 PM

CF

“ Carraro family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wayne I. Elliot.

Carraro family - July 03, 2024 at 01:46 PM

CF

“ Carraro family purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Wayne I. Elliot.



Carraro family - July 03, 2024 at 01:46 PM

LF

“ Laurie Dufour & Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Wayne I. Elliot.



Laurie Dufour & Family - July 03, 2024 at 01:41 PM

DA

“ Rich and Family, I am so very sorry for your loss.

Dave Akridge - July 03, 2024 at 12:41 PM

KM

“ One of my favorite teachers of all time, Mr. Elliot changed my life in many ways. He truly believed in me in 7th & 8th grade, and because of him I won many awards, including a National writing award that he nominated me for, unbeknownst to me. Unfortunately it took me a long time to realize what he saw in me way back then, that I am first and foremost, a writer. He taught me how to understand a story, introduced me to writing poetry, allowed me to talk about ghosts and whales in our oratorical contests, encouraged me to write plays, and later wrote a glowing reference that got me into college. I will never forget him, he embodied the word ‘teacher’ in every way. My heart felt condolences to his family and friends.

Katy Aichele Miner - July 03, 2024 at 11:06 AM

JA

“ *Jan lit a candle in memory of Wayne I. Elliot*



Jan - July 03, 2024 at 06:48 AM

DN

“ *Summer of 2012 at the Bandstand in North Hampton. Thank you for all you did for us. Educator, leader, mentor. NHES Class of 1980.*



David Noble - July 02, 2024 at 07:43 PM

TD

Thank you so much for sharing.

Todd Dunphy - July 02, 2024 at 10:38 PM

PF

Together again!

Priscilla Fanning - July 03, 2024 at 12:45 AM

MA

Wayne was such a great teacher and very involved with the community. He will be missed by many!

Mark - July 03, 2024 at 09:57 AM

DN

Mr. Elliot was the best teacher and human being ever. So many of us are who we are because of who he was. He will forever be in our hearts and memories.

Deb Noyes - July 04, 2024 at 11:21 AM