**Elliott McGrew**

*by Rachel Barnes, Museum Education and Volunteer Coordinator*

We are very saddened to let you all know that longtime Hart Volunteer and Friends of Hart Park Director, Elliott McGrew passed last night December after a long illness. Elliott first came to the Hart in 2001 and he was truly a shining star – he worked as a tour guide, he assisted with many of the Museum and Park’s special events, he chaired the Silents Under the Stars fund raiser for several years, he edited the Friends of Hart Park newsletter,The Hart of the Matter, for many years, and he served on the Friends of Hart Park Board of Directors. We remember his quiet and reserved demeanor, his wickedly funny sense of humor, and his passion and dedication to the legacies he cared so much about.

A memorial service for Elliott was held on Saturday, January 11, 2014 at Hart Hall to celebrate the life of this incredible treasure the Hart will forever cherish.

*I cannot say, and I will not say  
That he is dead. He is just away.  
With a cheery smile, and a wave of the hand,  
He has wandered into an unknown land  
And left us dreaming how very fair  
It needs must be, since he lingers there.  
And you—oh you, who the wildest yearn  
For an old-time step, and the glad return,  
Think of him faring on, as dear  
In the love of There as the love of Here.  
Think of him still as the same. I say,  
He is not dead—he is just away.*

*--James Whitcomb Riley*

Editor's Note: Elliott was my mentor in editing this newsletter... he established the bar that I can only hope to approach, but know I will never quite reach. Moreover, his kindness and caliber as a gentleman will live on as an inspiration to all who knew him. We miss him.