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12-7-06

Former
and Crockett
10
friends
students in Houston

**ROBERT EUGENE
PASHO JR.**

Mr. Robert Eugene Pasho, Jr., age 61, passed away at his home in Crockett Friday, December 1, 2006. Mr. Pasho was born on August 11, 1945, in Caribou, Maine, which, his former students will recall, is one of the coldest places in the nation. Mr. Pasho was the son of the late Colonel (ret.) Robert Eugene Pasho, Sr., USAF, and the late Patricia Long Rector. His childhood was spent in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Puerto Rico, Alabama, and finally Houston.

At the age of nine, Mr. Pasho began throwing papers for the Houston Press and used

his earnings to treat his friends to chocolate malts at Buffalo Pharmacy, one of the first examples of his generous spirit. The strong women in his family believed that as the man-of-the-house he could fix whatever needed fixing with the right book and tools. Mr. Pasho used these self-taught skills to get a job at Trunkline Gas Company during high school and college summers. There he discovered that employees shared a restroom and executives had private ones; and, as he worked after hours, he gave himself executive privileges. Mr. Pasho truly believed that all hardworking, responsible humans, are equals and instilled this idea in his children and students.

Mr. Pasho always tried to do what was expected of him, so he played tackle on the football team until "the happiest day" of his life when he broke his leg during a game and never had to play football again. After graduating from Lamar High School, he attended Texas A&M University and was a member of the Corps of Cadets. Mr. Pasho said being in the Corps taught him everything he needed to know about teaching school and made him a Democrat.

Mr. Pasho believed that one could learn from each experience. Wrestling, he said, taught him the principle of leverage and its importance in dealing with others. Mr. Pasho felt he learned the most, though, when he flunked out of college. During his self-imposed break, he read meters for Houston Lighting and Power, saw what poverty does to the spirit, and realized education could save one from despair. Mr. Pasho graduated from A&M in 1967 and, ~~expecting to be drafted~~ (and ultimately dying on foreign soil), decided to teach school for his remaining year.

...kett are glad that this one year turned into thirty-five. Mr. Pasho's students learned history, chess, the satisfaction that comes from hard work, and pride. Mr. Pasho never cared what others thought of him, but he cared deeply about what young people thought of themselves. Mr. Pasho saw the beauty and potential in each of his students and changed many lives.

The lives he touched the most were those he loved the most, his family. Mr. Pasho showed them what a good husband and father should be and how to be true to themselves.

Survivors include his wife Connie, of Crockett; son William Robert Pasho, of Houston; daughters and sons-in-law Elizabeth and Oscar Barrera, of Mexico, Catherine and Arnaud Couturier, of Missouri City; son and daughter-in-law Daniel Pasho and Kimberly, of Kingwood; grandchildren Shelby Pasho, Robert Gavin Pasho, Tomas Barrera Petter, and Andre Eugene Couturier; beloved aunt Catherine Randolph, of Hamilton; "the best mother-in-law in the world," Maurine Wilson; family by choice, Jill and Jake Caprielian; colleagues-in-the-struggle, Delores Jones and Hubert Burns; dear cousins, many friends; and former students who will continue to make the world a better place.

A memorial service to celebrate Mr. Robert Eugene Pasho Jr.'s life was held Monday, December 4, at All Saints Episcopal Church with the Reverend Bill Cook officiating.

For those wishing to remember Mr. Pasho, please consider a donation in his memory to Hospice in the Pines, 116 South Raguet, Lufkin, TX. 75904, or to the Moore, Frye, Eckels Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 1248, Crockett, TX. 75835.

Callaway-Allee Funeral Home