

Lasting Legacy Award



HARMAN ELLIOTT

Nominated by The Elliott Museum

Lasting Legacy Award is presented posthumously to a philanthropic individual or couple who has left a significant planned gift to one or more Treasure Coast non-profit organizations(s) that are currently benefiting from the gift.

Harmon Parker Elliott was born in Watertown, MA on Feb. 18, 1887, to Sterling and Adell Parker Elliott. The Elliotts lived in a small house near the Stanley brother's factory (of Stanley Steam Car fame). Harmon often sat and listened as his father Sterling and the Stanley brothers discussed their inventions. Harmon attended high school and college in Massachusetts and then began to work in his father's company manufacturing bicycles, and then office equipment, much of which, he himself invented.

Although he grew up and spent most of his life in Massachusetts, Harmon began wintering in Stuart, Florida in 1936. Harmon's philanthropic nature was evident through out his life. In 1959, when Harmon sold the Elliott Company to the Bessemer Company, Harmon Elliott saw to it that every employee shared in the profits of the sale.

In 1961, Harmon Elliott built the Elliott Museum on Hutchinson Island as a tribute to his father, Sterling. He opened the museum to the public on Nov. 18, 1961, which showcased the 200 plus Elliott family patents and inventions including Sterling's quadricycle (which solved many problems plaguing the early four-wheeled automobile chassis) and the Elliott addressing machines, as well as family items such as the Elliott family's Stanley Steam car.

He died on Oct. 17, 1969. Mr. Elliott's last will and testament directed the donation of the Elliott Museum and all its collection to the Historical Society for the public benefit of the residents of the community. Further, he left an endowment to the Historical Society for the continued operation of the museum and in so doing, ensured the museum would be perpetually operated for our community's benefit. The entire Treasure Coast has benefited from the lasting legacy of Harmon Elliott. The Elliott Museum, along with a generous endowment from Mr. Elliott, has enhanced the community in countless ways. Mr. Elliott's philanthropy has touched every person who walks through the doors of the Elliott Museum. His influence and generosity will continue far into the future with the completion of the exciting and innovative, New Elliott Museum!

There is in each of us so much goodness that if we could see its glow, it would light the world.

~Sam Friend