

Bulletin for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies

Journal of the Association for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies

Volume 47

Issue 1

Obituary 1

2022

Obituary of John H. Elliott (1930-2022)

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Recommended Citation

Kagan, Richard L. and Geoffrey Parker (2022) "Obituary of John H. Elliott (1930-2022)," *Bulletin for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies*: Vol. 47 : Iss. 1 , Obituary 1.

Available at:

<https://asphs.net/article/obituary-of-john-h-elliott-1930-2022>

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John H. Elliott
1930-2022

2022 has been a disaster for early modern Spanish history, with the death of three outstanding practitioners – Jonathan Brown, J. H. Elliott and Richard Herr – and it’s still only October. Others will praise Brown and Herr. We would like to say something here about John Elliott, our doctoral adviser.

He was a good friend to ASPHS, whose annual meetings he often attended, culminating in Albuquerque in 2013 when he attended a panel to celebrate the “Golden Anniversary” of two of his early works: *Imperial Spain* and *The Revolt of the Catalans*, both published in 1963, translated into many languages, and still widely read. We last “saw” John on a Zoom call with some of his other doctoral advisees to celebrate his 91st birthday in June 2021, during which he cheerfully described the new book he was writing on Portugal’s empire. A colleague who visited him in hospital just before his death noticed two books in Portuguese on his bedside table.

Many tributes to John and his remarkable achievements are available online. You can find several of them attached to the recording of the Memorial Service, held in Oxford on 10 June, at <https://www.history.ox.ac.uk/article/sir-john-elliott-23-june-1930-10-march-2022>

The next issue of the *Bulletin* will contain the last article Elliott wrote, when he was made an “hijo adoptivo” of the town of Olivares in October 2021, about both the count-duke and himself.

We have been commissioned to write a full obituary for the *Biographical Memoirs of Fellows of the British Academy*. We would welcome any recollections from readers.

Richard L. Kagan
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