Thomas Francis Connaughton Jr. was born in Brooklyn, NY on January 10th, 1935. In his early life, Tom, (as he is remembered by loved ones), worked as a delivery boy, an elevator operator, and as an ambulance driver in Queens. Later, after his marriage to his first wife, Irene Sanchez (nee Hannigan) and the birth of his first son, they moved to Plainview, NY, where he was a volunteer firefighter with Ladder Company 338, and an insurance agent with Metropolitan Life in Mineola, NY. He would draw amazing story boards in his spare time and his love for music led him to play the drums whenever he could. He marched in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade more than once, spending many days with his friends, he would enjoy walking the city just to end up at Coney Island. He graduated from Erasmus Hall High School in Brooklyn, NY in 1952 and continued his education with numerous college degrees, it was an accomplishment he was very proud of. Over the years he had obtained a real estate license, an insurance license, and his special education degree. His first taste of the military was in Queens, NY, where he joined the Army and began basic training on November 5th, 1954. After 5 1/2 years in the Army, he transferred to the Air Force and would continue serving for the next 20 years. His love for the military, family and teaching was something no one could deny. His smile was infectious and his Brooklyn dialect was still with him years after leaving his home streets. It was really noticeable when he was really excited or when he was very upset. His children are grateful for a life well lived and the memories we share. He will be deeply missed by everyone who knew him, especially his children, grandchildren, great-



