This poem is available in Survive & Thrive: A Journal for Medical Humanities and Narrative as Medicine:
https://repository.stcloudstate.edu/survive_thrive/vol7/iss1/7
Owen Francis Ellison

1919-1994

In century-old classrooms
He enlightened and disabled
Aspiring technicians, engineers, and others
As he smoked unfiltered Lucky Strike cigarettes

Owen Ellison, Retired, U.S. Navy
Wrote off those students
protesting the war
As unworthy

Every certainty was challenged
Electricity did not exist
Gravity was a misnomer
Mr. Ellison was the troubadour of truth

Trust became counter-intuitive
Every conversation a shell-game
That eventually eroded
The foundation that remained