

This obituary appeared in the *Tuscaloosa News*, February 22, 2002.

TUSCALOOSA | Frank L. Engle, 85, Professor Emeritus of Art, the University of Alabama, passed away on Thursday, February 20, 2002, at DCH Regional Medical Center. Engle joined the faculty at the University of Alabama in 1949 and taught at the University for 31 years. After his retirement, he continued to create at his farm in Tuscaloosa County and at his cottage on the Bon Secour River in Baldwin County, Alabama.

He is survived by his wife, Bethany Windham Engle, a daughter, Eve Engle Kneeland, three grandsons, Evan, Chris and Patrick, and a son-in-law, Richard Kneeland.

Engle was born in Peoria County, Illinois, and spent his childhood in Indiana. He graduated from Herron College of Art of Indiana University and did his graduate work at the University of California, Los Angeles. In 1940 he won the prestigious Mary Milliken Scholarship Award. During this award year, he traveled extensively throughout Canada, the United States and Mexico.

During World War II, Engle was a patternmaker for Lockheed Aircraft Corporation. During the latter years of the war, he was head of the Experimental Pattern Department.

Engle owned and operated Engle Studios in Los Angeles and Newberg, Indiana. During this time, he executed numerous designs, including the well-known red, white and blue crest which was for many years the Emblem of Ford Motor Company. His works were handled by such stores as Nieman-Marcus, Gumps, Macy's, Marshall Field's, Hudson's, I. Magnin, and Wannamaker's, as well as by individual decorators. His works were often used in magazine advertisements, for sets in the motion picture industry and commissioned by such hotels as the Shamrock in Houston.

Before joining the faculty at the University of Alabama, Engle taught at the University of Iowa and Evansville University. He established the Ceramics Department at what was then the University of Alabama Birmingham Center and which later became the University of Alabama in Birmingham. The Mississippi Art Colony frequently invited Engle to be a visiting instructor. He served as a representative for the American Crafts Council during his tenure at the University of Alabama.

Engle won numerous awards and participated in both one-man and group exhibitions. His work is included in many private, public, university, church and corporate collections, i.e.; Blount Collection of American Art, Blount International Headquarters, Warner Collection, Louisiana State University Collection, Mississippi University for Women Collection, Evansville University Collection and the Collection of the Butler Institute of American Art. He was invited to participate in both the 1991 Alabama Biennial Sculpture Exhibition and the 1993 Sculpture Garden II in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

In 1994, Engle was presented the Distinguished Career Award by the Society for the Fine Arts and the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Alabama. Room 113 in Woods Hall at the Department of Art, University of Alabama, is named the Frank Engle Room, the result of a gift to the University from one of Engle's former students.

A memorial service honoring Engle will be held at a later date. The family requests that in lieu of flowers donations be made to the Tuscaloosa Humane Society, West Alabama Animal Rescue (WAAR), and T-Town Paws. (*Tuscaloosa News*, February 22, 2002)