



Robert Charles Skelley

December 26, 2020

Robert Charles Skelley, University of Florida Professor Emeritus, died on December 26, 2020 in Gainesville, Florida. While a professor in the Graphic Design Department, University of Florida Department of Fine Art for 42 years, he inspired his students as graphic artists and printmakers. Their success became a reflection of his devotion to teaching and his students.

Professor Skelley's acclaimed woodcut prints are displayed in museums and institutions such as American Society of Graphic Artists, Library of Congress, Boston Museum, Mint Museum, Brooklyn Museum, San Francisco Museum, Hallmark Corporation, Savannah Museum, Who's Who in American Art and Museum of Modern Art.

Born in Bellvue, Ohio in 1934, the son of Leonard and Audra, Day, Robert knew at an early age he wanted to be an artist. After serving in the Army, Robert attended Indiana University and received his Master of Fine Arts Degree in 1965. He is survived by his wife Jane Sharp, daughters Kristine Skelley and Kara Skelley grandchildren, Damon and Devin Diez and nephew Jeff Stapleton.

Comments



“ Professor Skelley pushed us to do our best in his graphic design classes. My deepest condolences to his wife and family.
Elizabeth Daab Szigeti (1984)

Elizabeth Szigeti - February 25 at 04:09 PM



“ Professor Skelley led by example. We all looked forward to his work in the annual faculty shows. UF had amazing fine artists on staff for decades and he was one of the best. Professor Skelley was admired and shared what he knew. I was a better teacher because of him, as were many of us lucky enough to have known him. My condolences to his family.
Respectfully,
Julie Felts, Sarasota

Julie Felts - February 15 at 11:24 AM



“ When I was young, I first saw and was very impressed with Robert Skelley's prints, which were published along with an article in American Artist Magazine. Little did I know at that time that I would attend the University of Florida as a Graduate Student in Art/Printmaking, and come to know him as a person. While I never had the chance to take any of his courses (between 1974-76 he taught only Graphic Design), his outgoing friendliness and support for we young artists definitely touched my life. Now at age 69, I am fortunate to still be teaching Art on the College Level, at The University of Tampa. Bob knew my weakness for attractive co-eds (I was 22-24 when at UF), and kidded me when in 1977 I began teaching at a Women's College, Russell Sage in Troy, NY. "John, that's like the fox guarding the chicken's coop!" I trust he would have been proud to learn that I actually behaved myself in my four years there, marrying just before moving on to the University of North Alabama. In my life, I never managed to do any Relief Prints that came close to the mastery of that challenging medium Mr. Skelley achieved even at an early age. News of his passing saddens me, and I send heartfelt condolences to all his family and friends, along with thanks to him for all he did for me as an artist and teacher.

John Caputo
MFA University of Florida 1976



John Caputo - February 07 at 01:30 PM



“ Our sincere sympathy ~ Kevin & Patricia Olson

Kevin & Patricia Olson - February 07 at 11:50 AM