



Thelma Denyer Brownnett

October 26, 1924 - January 21, 2011

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Thelma Denyer Brownnett, 86, died on January 21, 2011 at Flagler Hospital following a brief illness. Her parents, Harry and Olivia May Brownnett immigrated from Croydon, England in 1922. She was born on October 26, 1924, and grew up in Jacksonville, Florida. After graduating from Robert E Lee High School, she attended Wesleyan Conservatory and earned a bachelor's of Fine Arts degree in 1946. She later attended University of Georgia and graduated in 1952 with a master's in Fine Arts. She began her teaching career in 1947 as an art instructor at Fletcher Senior High School in Jacksonville, and then went on to teach as a college art professor at Augusta College, Univ of Georgia, Georgia State University, Jacksonville University, and Florida Junior College at Jacksonville (now Florida State College at Jacksonville), where she helped found the art department and served as head of the art department for many years, retiring in 1985. She maintained a painting studio in Jacksonville for 30 years, and was owner of the Oxford Gallery, where she housed her fine art and portrait studio, and later designed stained glass at her Oxford Stained Glass gallery. She is the author of *Painting* (1976), and *Painting: Studio Handbook* (1982). Her paintings have been exhibited and included in many private collections and public art museums both locally and abroad. Early in her career, she also served as Commissioner of Art for the state of Georgia, and Director of the Gertrude

Herbert Art Museum. She is survived by her brother, Edward Brownnett; two nephews and one niece-in-law, Hal Brownnett, George and Tracye Brownnett; grandniece Erin Denyer Brownnett; and grandnephews, Christopher Brownnett, and Andrew Brownnett. All reside in St. Augustine. We will all miss her passion for art and life, and her playful personality that inspired everyone around her. The family would like to thank the staff at the Grafton House in St. Augustine for providing years of loving care. Services will be held at 2 pm on Monday, January 24, at the Oaklawn Cemetery funeral chapel in Jacksonville, with Dr. Pat Turner-Sharpton officiating. St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall

AM

“ Hello I would like to send prayers to the family of Mrs.Brownett. I have a painting that she has done. It has her name and 56 on it. Was wanting some info on it. It a bridge seen with water and a boat. Thanks for your help.

Alishia Moss - January 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KA

Hello and my deepest sympathies. I had Ms.Brownett in college and she was a great instructor. A great artist and a great woman. She exhibited not only tremendous talent, beauty, gentleness and was very kind. She was so kind to me. She always encouraged one to keep up their work and to take care of themselves She was the best instructor .I've always remembered her. At a low point in my young vulnerable life she made sure that I was on, expressing her concern. Ms. Brownett was so elegant and I've never forgotten her reaching out to make sure I was ok.. I don't know if I ever told her . She's a treasure. Also she'd restored paintings and at school taught us about cleaning .and restoring our art. Buying quality materials caring properly for our brushes. My prayers and thankfulness. You made a difference . Karen Wiggins

Karen - February 06, 2025 at 05:26 PM