In Memoriam

Rev. Dr. Denson Nauls Franklin Sr. of Birmingham died Dec. 13, 2002. For more than 70 years, he served the United Methodist Church as a minister, author, and member of church boards and agencies locally and nationwide.

Licensed as a student pastor in the North Alabama Conference at age 16, he continued parish ministry until his retirement in June 1982, serving, among others, First United Methodist Church in Gadsden and First United Methodist and Canterbury United Methodist churches in Birmingham. An active community leader, throughout his ministry he was involved in interfath and social justice issues.

He served as assistant to the president of Birmingham-Southern College for Church Affairs until 1998. He was a trustee of the college from 1956 until his death and had served as chairman of the Board of Trustees and chairman of the Executive Committee.

BSC President Dr. Neal Berte said of him that he was "truly a remarkable individual... who really made a difference for good."

Survivors include wife Rev. Denson Nauls Franklin Jr. ’58; two grandchildren, Rev. Lee Franklin Bauer ’83 (Kenneth Robert Bauer ’82) and Denson Nauls Franklin III ’85; and five great-grandchildren.

The family has requested that memorials be made to Birmingham-Southern College for the purpose of helping create an area in the Humanities Center to be named the Denson N. Franklin Professor of Religion Office. Memorials may be made through the Office of Development at 900 Arkadelphia Road, Box 540003, Birmingham, AL 35254. For information, call 205/226-4919.

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