TALLAHASSEE -- Former Florida Supreme Court Justice Arthur Jay England died Thursday, August 01, 2013, in Miami, Florida. He was 80 and Florida’s 63rd Justice since statehood.

“Justice England’s contributions to the state and his service on the Supreme Court was a benefit to all Floridians,” said Chief Justice Ricky Polston. “He was a respected member of the legal community and will be remembered for his knowledgeable contributions in many legal areas, especially taxation.”

Born in Dayton, Ohio, England attended the University of Pennsylvania. He received his law degrees from the University of Pennsylvania Law School (LL.B.) and the University of Miami Law School (LL.M., taxation). In 1979 he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Stetson University’s College of Law.

Justice England was one of the last justices to run for election before Florida moved from the direct election of Supreme Court Justices to a merit selection and retention process in 1976.

Justice England was elected by the people of Florida in 1974 and took office on January 8, 1975, at the age of 42. He was elected and served as Chief Justice from July 1, 1978, to June 30, 1980. While Chief Justice, he was elected to a one-year term (1979-1980) as deputy chairman of the Conference of Chief Justices. He resigned from the Court on August 9, 1981, and returned to private practice in Miami.

The Court expresses its deepest sympathies to Justice England’s family and friends.

[Attachment: Portrait of Arthur England]

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