Donald F. Campbell was born on August 6, 1936. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan in 1958 and his law degree from the Detroit College of Law in 1961. Campbell served in the U.S. Army from 1962 to 1964 before joining the MSU Detroit College of Law faculty in 1966. He went on to become the longest serving professor in the law college, serving for nearly 40 years. Campbell was known as an advocate for the elderly and for his law students. He taught criminal law, mortgages, trusts, taxation, and conflict of laws. He wrote numerous articles on the topic of property law in the state of Michigan and the purpose of American law. Along with his professorial duties, Campbell spent time working as an associate at a private practice law firm, served as an instructor in the School of Business at Wayne State University, and served as reporter for the Professional Development Task Force on Mandatory Continuing Legal Education for Michigan Lawyers. Campbell passed away in 2006.