Ex-Butler business owner gets degree

BOCA RATON, Fla. — Former Butler businessman Arthur Jaffe received an honorary doctoral degree of humane letters from the Florida Atlantic University for his work as founder of the university’s book arts center.

Jaffe, 90, was co-owner of the former Jaffe’s clothing store on Main Street.

He has served as founder and curator of the Arthur and Mata Jaffe Center for Book Arts in the FAU Wimberly Library, which began with the Jaffe’s donation of 2,800 artists books in 1998.

The 4,800-square-foot center has been developed into a cultural center that houses 12,000 rare books and serves as a venue for concerts, film screenings, exhibitions, workshops and classes.

Jaffe volunteered at the library for four years before making the book donation.

A 2007 expansion of the library was paid for through a gift left to the university by the late Mata Jaffe.

Arthur Jaffe also served as the Ario S. Hyams Professor, an endowed position in the university’s libraries until 2010.

He received his honorary degree May 6 at commencement.