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Lawrence, John Elmore (1954 – 1964)

Pastors of First Baptist Shelby

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10-12-1977

### Biographical Sketch - Oct. 12, 1977 - John Lawrence

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10-12-77

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

JOHN E. LAWRENCE

Born: Scotland Neck, N.C., December 21, 1916

Marital  
Status:

Married, 1943, to Laura Bateman, former student secretary  
Woman's College, UNC, past State President of N.C. Pastors' Wives

Children: John E. Lawrence, Jr., born October 26, 1945, Norfolk, Virginia  
Student, Duke University School of Medicine

Educated: Scotland Neck School system  
Wake Forest College, Wake Forest Law School  
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Degrees: B.A., LL.B., B.D.

Experience: Practiced law with The late Senator Willis Smith, Raleigh, N.C. 1939-40  
Served as Director of the North Carolina Baptist Student Union, 1940-42  
Served in U.S. Navy as a line officer aboard aircraft carrier  
*Intrepid*, 1942-1945  
Pastor, Little Flock Baptist Church, Shepherdsville, Kentucky, 1947-49  
Pastor, Sunset Park Baptist Church, Wilmington, N.C. 1949-54  
Pastor, First Baptist Church, Shelby, N.C., 1954-64  
Pastor, Forest Hills Baptist Church, Raleigh, N.C., 1964 -

Preaching  
Missions:

Paraguay, 1959  
West Berlin, Germany, 1970

### Southern Baptist Convention Responsibilities:

Member of Order of Business Committee, S.B.C., 1955  
Member of Brotherhood Commission of S.B.C., 1959-65  
Director, Home Mission Board, 1968 -  
National President, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary  
Alumni Association, 1969-70

### North Carolina Baptist State Convention Responsibilities:

Chairman, Board of Trustees, Gardner-Webb College, 1956  
Member, Board of Trustees, Mars Hill College, 1961-64 (Vice Chairman, 1963)  
Vice President, N.C. Baptist State Convention, 1953, 1954, 1961, 1965  
Chairman N. C. State Convention Committees:  
Resolutions, 1953  
Nominations (acting chairman), 1957  
Order of Business, 1958  
Selected to preach convention sermon, Baptist State Convention, 1964  
Member of General Board: 1951-1955, 1965-1969  
Vice Chairman of General Board and Executive Committee, 1967-68  
President, North Carolina Baptist State Convention, 1969-1971

### Associational Responsibilities:

Moderator, Kings Mountain Baptist Association, 1963-64

### Civic Responsibilities:

Chairman, Shelby, N.C. Human Relations Council, 1963-64