

Gardner-Webb University

## Digital Commons @ Gardner-Webb University

---

Ramsey, Van (Music Minister)

Music Ministers, Organists, and Education  
Ministers of First Baptist, Shelby

---

11-18-1969

### Newspaper - The Shelby Daily Star - Nov. 18, 1969 - Van Ramsey

Unknown

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.gardner-webb.edu/first-baptist-shelby-van-ramsey>

---

# The Shelby Daily Star

Henry L. Weathers, Publisher  
Ned Smith, General Manager

Jerry C. Ausband, Editor  
Lindsey E. Dail, Advertising Mgr.

4—Tuesday, Nov. 18, 1969

## Pure And Simple Patriotism

ON A crisp, clear day, the voices and sounds of the Sing-Out Chorus could be heard forever. They spoke in terms of rhythm and words what many Americans feel about their country. They did not criticize the country, nor did they criticize those who feel they must criticize the country, rightly or wrongly. They provided the inspiration to a Support Your Country day program on Saturday at the Courthouse. With drums and piano, the chorus of young men and women set the stage for a program that some 350 saw and heard in person and probably others heard on live radio.

Some Shelbians did not agree with the idea of the program, but they did so because they could not really believe that the Washington, D.C., participants in the so-called "March Against Death" were against country. The program here Saturday, sponsored by the Shelby Junior Woman's Club, was not designed to protest the protesters, but only to give Shelbians an opportunity to show their support for their country in another way. Many did not come, perhaps of the cold weather, perhaps out of apathy, perhaps because they were working or perhaps they had prior commitments.

A veteran spoke from the heart, not in support of the war, but about the country for which he fought. Another veteran of Vietnam arrived too late to speak, but he undoubtedly would have expressed the same conviction. To us, the young peoples' voices and the veterans' words gave chills that were not a product of the subfreezing temperatures. This was patriotism in the raw, without the embellishment of overstatement that has turned many true Americans away from patriotic ventures. This was expression of truth and sincerity, without frills and without fancifulness. This is why, then, the program succeeded where others may fail.

**THERE WAS** nothing in the program that precluded criticism of country where criticism is due or believed, and there was nothing which insisted that the program was the only way to express support of country. This was a program that allowed an outlet of one kind of simplistic patriotism. It was "activist," because it was done instead of allowed to wallow in self-pity, and it was demonstrative. The program was as crisp and clear as the day.