



## Dr. John Lawson Sayer

December 18, 1933 - August 18, 2014

Dr. John Lawson Sayer, age 80, beloved husband, father, and grandfather, went to be with the Lord on August 18, 2014 after a courageous battle with ALS. (Lou Gehrig's disease). Dr. Sayer was a longtime resident of Fairburn. As a child and teen, he was active in the Boy Scouts and earned the Eagle Scout award and served as assistant Scout Master for many years. He has been an active member of the First Baptist Church of Fairburn since the age of twelve. He has served as an adult Sunday school teacher for many years. He has also served as a deacon and as Chairman of Board of Deacons. He has served as Chairman of many church committees, as well. Dr. Sayer attended and received degrees from Mercer University, Emory University, The University of Georgia and Georgia State University where he earned his Ph.D. He served in the U.S. Army as 2nd Lieutenant at Fort Lee, VA after being in the ROTC at Mercer University. He was employed by the Fulton County Board of Education for 33 years as a teacher, school social worker, principal, Administrative Assistant, Director of Attendance, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Associate Superintendent for Planning and Human Resources, and Interim Superintendent. He served Fulton Teachers' Credit Union as Director, Secretary, Treasurer, and Chairman of the Board for 54 years.

Lawson is survived by his loving wife, Anita, of 57 years. He also leaves to cherish his memory one son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Mark (Tammy) Sayer of Newnan, one daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth (Lisa) Grace of Sharpsburg; one grandson, Mark Grace; three granddaughters, Maggie Grace, Hayley Sayer, and Camden Sayer; one brother and sister-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. Avery (Myra) Sayer of Sharpsburg.

Lawson enjoyed life to the fullest. Some of his favorite pastimes were walking and traveling. He and Anita had visited all 50 states and capitals and visited many foreign countries. They also enjoyed cruising. He was also an avid UGA Bulldog fan and loved watching football in the fall. He loved spending time with his grandchildren, and watching their various sporting events, dance recitals, and other activities.

Funeral Services will be held Friday, August 22, 2014 at 11 o'clock at the First Baptist Church of Fairburn. Dr. Oscar Cope and Dr. Justin Terrell officiating. Interment Holly Hill Memorial Park. Those wishing may sign the online guestbook at [www.parrottfuneralhome.com](http://www.parrottfuneralhome.com). In lieu of flowers, those desiring may make donations in his memory to the ALS Association of Georgia, Inc., 1955 Cliff Valley Way, Suite 116, Atlanta, GA. 30329-2437 or at [www.alsa.org](http://www.alsa.org)/ donate or give to First Baptist Church of Fairburn, 23 Malone Street, Fairburn, GA 30213. The family will receive friends Thursday evening from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. at Parrott Funeral Home and Crematory, Fairburn, 770-964-4800.

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var item = document.getElementById("tukios_iframe");

// Now calculate our height.
if (item){
//Looks like we have tukios_iframe. Lets do stuff
var currentWidth = item.clientWidth;
var proposedHeight = (currentWidth + 80) * 9/16;
item.height=proposedHeight;
}
```

PDF Printable Version

# Tribute Wall

DP

“ Hi Mark,  
I would like to extend my condolences to you and your family. I am teaching for Fulton County and when I read the notice, I realized it was your father. After reading your father's obituary, I realize why his son is such a great person. I am sure you are great father just like your Dad. I hope you and Tammy are doing great after your time with Delta. I wish you the best, as always. I will keep you and your family in my prayers.

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**Donna Ward Perry** - August 30, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RT

“ You are in our thoughts and prayers at this time of loss. Our hope is in the promise we are given\_That life is but a journey leading to that perfect home that God prepares for each of us in Heaven. "May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace."  
Romans 15:13

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**Rebecca and Jerry Thompson** - August 23, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Anita, Mark & Lisa,  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Lawson was such a kind man and will be missed by many. Heaven certainly gained a good Christian man. We are unable to attend but know we will be thinking of your family.

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**David & Jane Storey** - August 22, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AA

“ Dear Anita and Family,

*It seems I can never write words of comfort for my friends who are experiencing heart ache at the demise of their loved one, so I am going to quote Mary Jane Holt: Somewhere beyond today out on the edge of tomorrow oblivious to all my yesterdays I shall stand with but a faint memory of today's pain for it, too, shall fade and Only Love Shall Remain.*

*God bless you.*

*Love,*

*'Nita*

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**Anita Argo Asmr** - August 22, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ Dear Anita and Family,

*I am greatly touched hearing of Lawson's passing. I am glad we reconnected for a few precious moments at the CHS Class of '65 reunion in 2010 which you both attended. Among many gifts he gave the world, Lawson was an inspiring and jovial Scout leader, a mentor. I treasure the great times, camps, games, meetings, merit badge checkouts, laughs and fun. Lawson was able to hold discipline in a way that made one feel worthy. I will always remember him with fondness and respect. May God bless you in celebration of this wonderful man's life, and ease your grief in the joy of his heavenly ascent.*

*Larry Brown*

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**Larry W. Brown** - August 22, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Lisa,  
We were so sorry to hear about your father. We know it has been a long battle. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.  
Love, Dee & Wendell Hendricks

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**Dee Hendricks** - August 21, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ Anita and family,  
Over the years that we have gotten to know Lawson at First Baptist Church Fairburn, it has been refreshing and comforting to know there are still Godly men, serving in the church, in the community, and in various walks of life. Lawson was such a man. It has been our honor to know him.

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**JohnAndShirley Plunkett** - August 21, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ Sweet Anita,  
You, Lawson, and I have been a part of each other's lives as long as I can remember. It is so sad to say goodbye, but as we do, God is saying, "Welcome home my good and faithful servant." We will all be reunited with our loved ones as God wills.  
My love and prayers, and God's blessings to you and yours at this sad time and always.  
Margaret

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**Margaret & Gordon Kilgore** - August 21, 2014 at 12:00 AM

IW

“ Ida wants to let you know that she is thinking about you at this time. She is unable to come to visitation as she is recovering from a fall. She remembers seeing Lawson walking around town and that "he was such a nice man". May God grant you peace and comfort.

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**Ida Williams** - August 21, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ *LAWSON WAS A VALUABLE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT TO ALL WHO WORKED WITH HIM. HE WAS ALWAYS THERE WHEN WE NEEDED HIS HELP.*

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**SHIRLEY greer** - August 21, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ *To the family of DR.LAWON SAYER I will always have you all in my prayers. May GOD be with you all always.*

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**ROSA DURRAH** - August 21, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ *Anita,*

*You and your family are in my prayers and the prayers of the Jenkins' family.*

*I know that Lawson is now in a peaceful place and at rest in his heavenly home.*

*Larry Jenkins*

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**Larry Jenkins** - August 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ *I am so sorry to hear of your loss. May God bless & comfort you now and always.*

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**Shannon (Stover) Brown** - August 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

VN

“ Anita and Children, I am so sad at Lawson passing away but I know he is in Heaven with the angels. Lawson was a true Christian man as well as many other good things I can't think of right now. We will miss him greatly. Our Class of 1952 love and will miss him so much. Much love and prayers, Virginia

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**virginia nestlehutt** - August 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Anita and Family,  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family in this time of sorrow. Word's cannot express the sadness we feel for you. Your family is surrounded by the love of many. Please let me know of any way I can help you.

With Sympathy,  
Love Denny and Vicki Wrightson

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**Dennis & Vicki Wrightson** - August 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KE

“ May the peace which comes from memories of love shared comfort you.

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**Kimberly Echols** - August 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ I don't know Dr. Lawson personally. However, after reading his biography I can tell that he was a man of great influence. Dr. Lawson has certainly made a mark on this side of heaven that certainly cannot be erased. He has served in many different capacities and I'm sure has served many people during his lifetime. There are not many people who have as many accomplishments as Dr. Lawson. Blessings to your family. Peace be with you all.

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**Michelle Tindall** - August 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ *Mark, I am so sorry to hear of the passing of your father. You and your family are in my prayers during this time of grief.*

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**becky hamilton** - August 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ *As a long time friend of our family and well known through out the community, one thing I know for sure is that every aspect of his life most certainly honored Christ. He will be missed by many. You all are in my thoughts and prayers.*

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**Susan Hearn Hutcheson** - August 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

OE

“ *Words are never adequate at times like this, You are in our thoughts and prayers. You can rest assured knowing that he is at home with our Lord and Savior.*

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**Owen and Barbara Edge** - August 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

WN

“ *I have a great respect for Dr. Lawson Sayer. He will forever be remembered at Fulton Teachers' Credit Union. He was a man of integrity. I pray you find comfort in knowing he is now with the Lord.*

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**Wanda Norman** - August 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ *Everyone at United Community Bank in Fairburn would like to express their deepest sympathies to Mr. Sayer's family. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

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**Sandra Wallis** - August 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ Ed and I loved Dr. Sayer and was honored to have him as our friend. Ed was President of the Fulton County Board of Education and served with Dr. Sayer when he was the Interim Superintendent. I can just imagine Ed and Dr. Sayer discussing education as they sit together in Heaven. Sending my love to Anita.

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**Becky Lewis** - August 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ Over my 28 year career with FC Schools in art education in the administration building, I knew Dr. Sayer as a soft-spoken, intelligent, and eminently fair minded man. He was true educator, administrator, and always a gentleman. My prayers are with his wife and family.

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**Kellene Champlin** - August 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ We are so sorry for your family's loss ! Please know that ya'll are in our prayers! What am amazing discovery that all these years we realize that our parents were such good friends!

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**Chuck&Gena Smith & Joan&JohnMappin** - August 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ I was one of Lawson's fathers students and also had his mother as a substitute teacher. I heard many good things about Lawson. My thoughts and prayers are with all the family at this difficult time.

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**Sandra Stephens** - August 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

ED

“ *Mrs. Sayer, Lisa & Mark,*

*We were so sorry to hear of Dr. Sayer's passing. He was such an accomplished and well respected man throughout his work, church and home life. Our prayers are with you and your family during this sad time.*

*Erin (Joyner) & Ray Davis*

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**Erin & Ray Davis** - August 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ *Mike and I are praying for all of you at this time. Dr. Sayer was a wonderful person and an inspiration to me.*

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**Jill Exner** - August 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BY

“ *Lawson Sayer was one of the finest Christian men I have ever known. He will be missed by many people. Our hearts go out to Anita and family. May God give you peace and comfort thru these difficult days. Love to all.*

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**Butch and Brenda Yert** - August 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ *Sending prayers that God's peace be with you. We are so very sorry for the loss of Mr Sayer. Having read his long list of awards and accomplishments, I know without a doubt that his family was his proudest achievement. Mrs Sayer, Mark & Lisa, I know you will miss him every single day-- Our family will continue to pray for your peace and comfort. With love And sympathy- Elizabeth & Prentiss Wehman*

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**Prentiss & Elizabeth Wehman** - August 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ *May our Heavenly Father and Beautiful Savior Jesus the Christ, Bless this wonderful family with His Love, Comfort, and Peace during this time. You are loved and prayed over.*

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**Matt and Dolores Guilfoyle** - August 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ *Mrs Sayer, Mark, and Lisa , I am very sad for you all at this time and wanted to let you know how sorry I am for your loss. Sincerely Chris Guilfoyle*

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**Chris Guilfoyle** - August 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ *Anita and Family, in times like these I don' t know what to do. I don't know what to say, but one thing is for sure I can pray. I have and will continue to pray for you. I appreciate the influence you and Lawson have had on my life and on the lives of so many others.*

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**Ruth D. West** - August 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ *Dr. Sayer was a gentle, kind man. He always had a loving concern for children. He taught me many things about teaching during my years with Fulton County. My life is so much richer for having known him. My prayers go out for his family. He is with Jesus, now, singing praises to the King of Kings.*

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**Dan Kent** - August 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ Dr, Sayer was my 6th grade teacher at Union City Grade School. I remember him as a great teacher with a kind heart and disposition. I am sorry to learn of his passing.

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**Richard Lawhorne** - August 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Love and prayers to all of the family.

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**Marian Langley Fultz** - August 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ The members and friends of Palmetto Baptist Church extend our sincere condolences in the loss of Mr. Lawson Sayer. As the father of Lisa Grace and Mark Sayer, PBC members, he has been in our prayers for quite some time now. We ask for God's comfort and peace for each of you in the days ahead. May you know that your church family loves and cares for each of you, and will be here for you during this time. Mark and Lisa you were so blessed to have so many years with your father, and have many memories to keep in your heart. May God continue to bless each of you in this journey.

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**Judy Long** - August 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ My Dear Anita and Family,

May God shower you with his loving grace at this sad time.

Deepest sympathy!

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**Barbara Yarbrough Wilson** - August 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ *Anita and Family...Our heartfelt sympathy to you and your family. Lawson was a special friend. Going through school and all the following years has been my privilege. He will certainly be missed by many. Our prayers and love are with you and your family during this time and in the days to come.*

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**J.D. & Carole Cravey** - August 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM