

## Well-known Baptist, Cecil Sherman, Remembered

By Keith Collier, SWBTS on May 4, 2010

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FORT WORTH, Texas (SWBTS) -- Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary offered condolences to the family of Cecil Sherman upon his passing, April 17. He was 82.

Sherman, a well-known Texas Baptist, was instrumental in the formation of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and served as its first coordinator. Sherman belonged to a group of Southern Baptists committed to liberal stances regarding issues such as biblical inerrancy and women in ministry. He believed the Bible was authoritative but not inerrant.

In a [book review](#) of Sherman's autobiography, *By My Own Reckoning*, Southwestern Seminary president Paige Patterson said that although he disagreed with Sherman on nearly every theological issue, he considered the book "one of the most delightful reads in many moons."

"Cecil Sherman is an honest man who tells you up front what he thinks about everything without indulging in political spin games," Patterson said. "Furthermore, in the last chapter of this book, without the slightest intention on his part, Sherman reveals the heart of a devoted husband and father to an extent rarely discernible among liberals, neo-orthodox, postmoderns or, may God forgive us, evangelicals."

Sherman earned two degrees from Southwestern, a Bachelor of Divinity in 1953 and a Th.D. in 1960. He also earned a B.A. from Baylor University and a Th.M. from Princeton Theological Seminary.

Most recently, Sherman served as visiting professor of pastoral ministries at the Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond, Va. He served as pastor of several churches, including Broadway Baptist Church in Fort Worth from 1985-1992 and First Baptist Church in Asheville, N.C., from 1964-1984. He was a prolific author and wrote a five-volume *Formations Commentary* compilation covering Genesis to Revelation.

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