

Laughridge...God's disciple

By RENEE WALSER

Born in 1904, Hal Laughridge of Gastonia has an impressive list of accomplishments - two full pages long.

But down at the bottom of the second page he writes, "My greatest desire is to lead people to Christ - man's greatest need."

Lately, Laughridge has been promoting BBN (Bible Broadcasting Network) on WYFQ 930 radio out of Charlotte. "Get Joy in Radio" say his advertisements.

"I'm just a layman working for the Lord," Laughridge said. "I will promote any good cause as long as it's honorable and to improve the affairs of mankind."

Laughridge said that most of his income these days goes to spreading the World of the Lord.

"I've always felt that way about it," he said. "I see so many pitfalls I could have gotten into if not for Him."

Laughridge has been self-supporting since he was a youngster.

"I grew up in a time when you had to do for yourself,"

he said.

He started working while a student, delivering newspapers in Columbia, S.C.

He has worked as an insurance agent, supervisor for the Department of Commerce for the federal census and as a field representative of the Tefley Tea Company.

He lived in Charlotte and received two degrees in marketing and public relations from Queens College.

Laughridge has always been active in his churches. He served as the first busi-

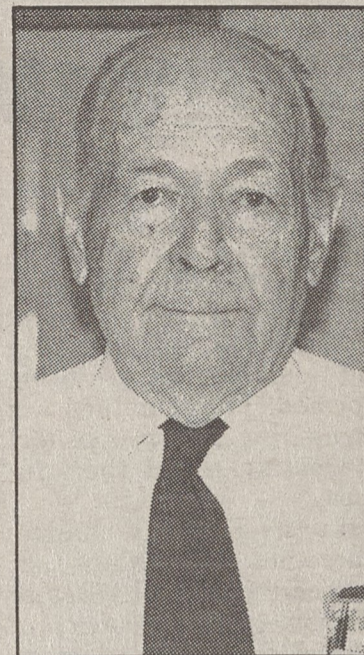
ness administrator of the Myers Park Presbyterian Church. In 1957, he became a counselor for the Billy Graham Crusade, listening and advising those who proclaimed Christ as their saviour during the event.

The 88-year-old crusader has been director and chairman of the fundraising and membership committee for the YMCA. And he started the 500 mile jogging club with 50 other members. Laughridge stayed with it while the others dropped out, and he compiled 6,000

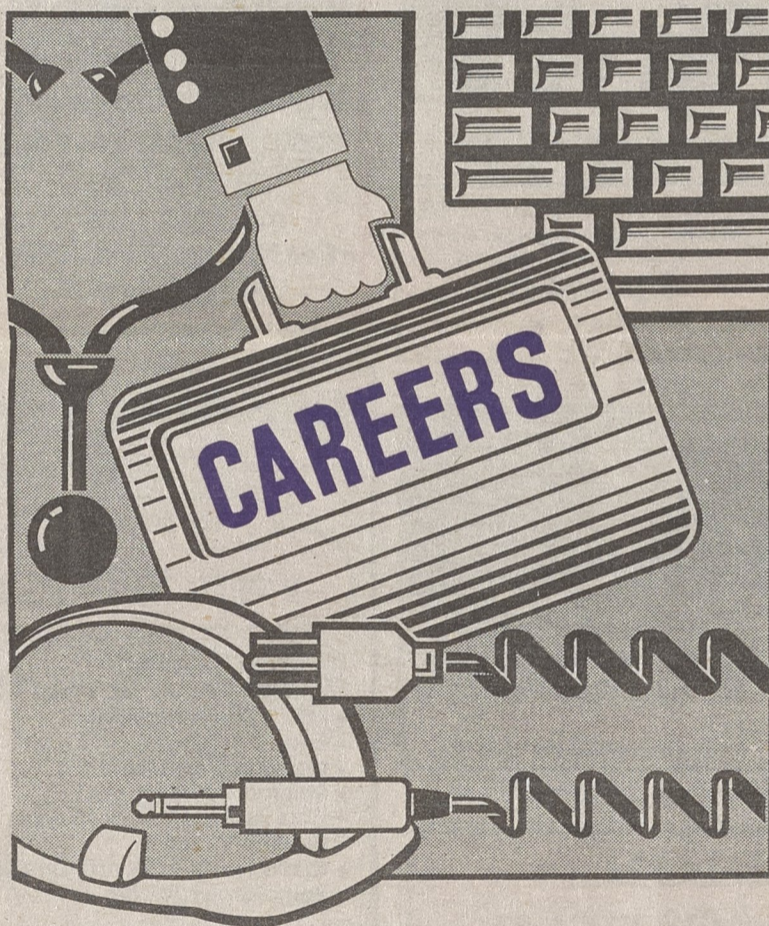
documented miles over eight years. He still walks quite a bit, but has given up jogging.

Laughridge is the second child of Augustus and Laura Rollins Laughridge of Cleveland County. He is one of eleven children. His wife is the former Della Rhyne Stowe and they have one son, David.

Scribbled to the side of the short biography reads: "Hal David Laughridge Sr., Octogenarian, Presbyterian Elder, Retired Banker. My business is to glorify God."



HAL LAUGHRIDGE



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