



Shel and May Lawr celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary yesterday (Wednesday). The couple's best man (65 years) and matron of honour (66 years) have also celebrated anniversaries recently.  
Photo by Ted Brown

## Lawrs (and their wedding party) have the secret to long marriages

By **TED BROWN**  
Staff Writer

It was September 21, 1946.

The Second World War had ended more than a year earlier and the vets had returned home.

On that late summer day, one of those vets, Shel Lawr, exchanged vows with his bride, May Hall, at Erin Presbyterian Church. The two would start a journey that would see them live in Georgetown all that time, (with the exception of five years in Limehouse) and celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary, with 25 family members present, this past Sunday.

When asked how they met, Shel, 89, has a good story.

"I think my brother had a date set up with her," said Shel, "but he couldn't make it, so I stepped in and took her out."

The rest is history. The couple raised their family of four— Cheryl, Steve, Allen and Greg—and saw them have six grand-

children and 12 great grandchildren.

The Lawrs have a unique situation when it comes to their wedding party.

Shel's brother Harvey, who was his best man, recently celebrated his 65th anniversary with his wife Theresa and May's matron of honour, Mary Shepherd, celebrated her 66th anniversary with her husband Art.

"That's collectively a total of 196 years of marriage," said Shel. "I think that must be a record of some sort."

When asked her formula for a long marriage, May, 87, was quick to reply.

"I just always let him (Shel) do what he wanted," said May. "That's why we had such a great long marriage."

The Lawr family held a reception to offer best wishes and congratulations last Sunday at Mountainview Residence, in the common room next to the Lawrs' apartment.

"It was great," said Shel. "We had a great time, saw all the family, and had some great memories."



May and Shel Lawr (right) with Shel's brother/best man Harvey Lawr and Mary Shepherd, May's matron of honour, Sept. 21, 1946 at Erin Presbyterian Church. All four have recently celebrated wedding anniversaries.  
Photo courtesy May and Shel Lawr

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